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7 June 1982

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

No. 2635

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MINISTER LAUDS NETHERLANDS-LIBERIA RELATIONSHIP

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 3 May 82 p 10

[Excerpt]

Acting Foreign Minister, Christopher Minikon has lauded the mutual relationship existing between the Netherlands and Liberia, which he said has been characterized by friendship, cordiality and bilateral cooperation.

He traced the relations between the two countries back to the mid 19th century when Liberia and the Netherlands signed a treaty of recognition, amity and trade.

Minister Minikon, who was speaking Friday night at the Netherlands Embassy in Monrovia, at a program marking the 45th birth anniversary of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, said the continued assistance Liberia was receiving from the Netherlands in priority areas, such as education, health and rural development, was an indication of the Netherlands government's understanding of the Liberian Revolution.

He also praised the Dutch government for scholarships granted to Liberians to study in the Netherlands, and for its financial assistance to self-help projects throughout the country.

The Acting Foreign Minister reemphasized government's commitment to improving the living standard of the Liberian people through the expansion of health and educational facilities in the country.

On the international scene, Minister Minikon said Liberia was committed to the achievement of Africa's legitimate aspirations for the independence of Namibia, and the eradication of apartheid in racist South Africa.

He then called on the Netherlands government and all peace-loving countries of the world to pressurize the Pretorian government, while providing moral and financial support to the liberation struggle in Africa.

CSO: 4700/1221

PRC-LIBERIAN CULTURAL AGREEMENT SIGNED

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 10 May 82 p 3

[Excerpt] A cultural agreement has been concluded between the Governments of Liberia and the People's Republic of China with a view to strengthening friendly relations and promoting exchanges between the two countries.

The eleven-article agreement was signed Thursday in Peking in English and Chinese, both texts being equally authentic.

Head of State Samuel K. Doe signed for the Republic of Liberia, while Premier Zhao Ziyang signed for the People's Republic of China.

The two contracting parties agreed in accordance with the principles of equality and mutual benefit, to promote cooperation between their two countries in the fields of culture, education, science, public health, sports, publication, the press and broadcasting.

They also agreed to cooperate in the field of culture and art by exchange of visits of writers and artists and to hold exhibitions on culture and art in each other's country.

The two governments agreed to undertake the exchange of visit and study and lecture tours by teachers, scholars and specialists, grant scholarships to each other's students according to needs and possibilities and encourage self paid students to study in each other's country.

The agreement provides for both Liberia and China to facilitate the establishment of direct contacts and cooperation between institutions of higher learning of the two countries, encourage the exchange of textbooks and other educational books and magazines and materials between the educational institutions of the two countries.

The document also stipulates that Liberia and China will encourage and facilitate the attendance by scholars or specialists of each other's country at international academic meetings, translate and publish outstanding works of literature and art of each other's country, and exchange books

and materials on culture and art.

STRENGTHENING OF CONTACTS

The strengthening of contacts and cooperation between sports organizations of both countries, the exchange of athletes, coaches and sports teams and to facilitate friendly visits and competitions were also included in the agreement.

The two countries also agreed to exchange experiences in medicine and public health and to undertake a programme of exchange in the social sciences including the exchange of visits and lecture tours by social scientists and of relevant materials.

To implement the agreement, the two contracting parties agreed that the annual executive programme and

the expenses for the cultural exchanges shall be agreed on separately.

The agreement becomes effective on the date the two contracting parties will notify each other of the completion of their respective legal procedures and it shall be valid for a period of five years, renewable automatically for successive periods of five years unless either party requests its termination by serving a written notice to the other party six months before the date of expiration.

INVITATION TO VISIT LIBERIA

Meanwhile, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang has accepted an invitation from Head of State Samuel K. Doe to visit Liberia, according to the French News Agency, quoting the New China News Agency.

CSO: 4700/1264

PAYMASTER ACCUSES FINANCE MINISTRY OF PAYROLL PADDING

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 6 May 82 pp 1, 10

[Article by Westmore Dahn]

[Excerpt]

The Government's paymaster-general, Major Harold Saa Bundoo, has accused the Ministry of Finance, the government agency responsible for making cheques, of engaging in payroll padding.

Major Bundoo who is the Disbursing Officer, said on Monday that "the Ministry of Finance, like the Ministry of Education, has been involved in this irregular practice inspite of repeated warnings by Head of State Doe and other patriotic citizens."

He said in an interview that after carrying out careful investigations, he discovered on the Finance Ministry's present payroll, "some names of individuals who have either died, left government service, or have left the country."

He did not disclose the names involved, but said: "I am ready to produce documents when I am asked to do so."

Last month, Finance Minister G. Alvin Jones announced that with the approval of the Head of State, ministers and heads of agencies will begin signing their employee's salary cheques as of July 1 this year, which is the new fiscal year.

Minister Jones said the exercise would, among other things, curb padding of payrolls as heads of ministries and agencies would pay more attention to scrutinizing payrolls before signing them.

He said further that individual ministries and agencies are in a better position to know ghost names from actual names on payrolls.

And now the Disbursing Officer at the Finance Ministry has revealed that payroll padding has been going on unabated in the ministry.

April Cheques

Major Bundoo said if such unscrupulous practice is stopped, the money saved could be used to develop the country or to use it in employing more people as there are lots and lots of people in search of jobs throughout the country.

Touching on out-station government employees who

were allegedly receiving salary cheques regularly even though they were no longer in active service, Disbursing Officer Bundoo explained that it was for this reason that the Head of State recently appointed a special committee to pay pensioners and teachers residing outside Monrovia personally.

He said that it was discovered through this exercise that although some of the people died or left government service, their friends and relatives were still signing for their cheques.

Major Bundoo stated that after six months, cheques of retired personnel and those that teachers have not signed for, will be withheld.

He appealed to government ministries, particularly the Ministry of Education, to present their payrolls on schedule, as mandated by the Head of State, so that his section can pay government employees on time.

JUSTICE MINISTRY PROBES SWINDLE BY BMC EMPLOYEES, TRIBAL CHIEFS

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 29 Apr 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by Sam Johnson]

[Text]

Several employees of the Bong Mining Company (BMC), and a number of tribal chiefs have allegedly swindled thousands of dollars from the company through deceptive means.

According to reports from Bong Mines, the company last March paid out \$121,413,53 as compensation to 200 farmers for crops on land falling within the BMC concession.

CONNIVANCE

An investigation conducted later by BMC security based upon certain allegations, however revealed that the company's surveyors had connived with some Paramount, Clan and Town Chiefs, including claimers, to defraud the company.

Voluntary statements obtained from some of those who allegedly received compensation under "false pretense" indicated that some chiefs received money to deceitfully identify individuals as crops owners.

During the identification and registration process, as it was reportedly learned from the investigation, persons who had no farms or gardens were falsely registered. Those who had small farms or gardens were registered as large farm owners, while those with a single farm or garden registered. Also registered were non-existing farms in the names of other persons.

Ironically, because of this deception, those who actually had existing land were reportedly underpaid while those without any crop received more money.

BRIBERY

One of the alleged fake claimers in "voluntary" statement explained that he gave \$50,00 and a chicken to have his name registered by the assessment team as a crop owner.

Another said she gave her town chief \$60,00 to have her sugarcane farm registered as within the area ear-

marked for compensation and to register her daughter and another person as crop owners.

One thousand dollars was paid out by the company for the three non-existing farms.

The Bong Mining Company has referred the matter to the Justice Ministry for thorough investigation and appropriate action.

The Justice Ministry comes into the picture because any loss sustained by the company also affects government by virtue of its fifty per cent ownership of the company.

CSO: 4700/1221

U.S. FIRM NEGOTIATING TO ESTABLISH CATTLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 11 May 82 pp 1, 10

[Article to Rufus M. Darpoh]

[Excerpt]

If negotiations are concluded, an American cattle development agency called Win Rock International, with a \$5 million backing by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), will undertake a seven-year cattle development program in Liberia.

This was disclosed last week in an interview with Mr. J. Hilary Mason, Assistant Minister of Agriculture for Technical Services, who said the company will bring exotic animals to be crossed with local ones to create a dual purpose breed — to produce milk and meat.

He said the offspring of the cross will be trypano-tolerant, meaning they will be without sleeping sickness.

Minister Mason said Win Rock International will provide training for local farmers as well as technical advice.

Mr. Mason disclosed that at present Liberia is importing from 12,000 to 15,000 cattle per herd a year, mainly from Mali, Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone and sometimes from Niger and Mauritania.

Minister Mason made the disclosure after the **Daily Observer** approached him to find out why Liberia had to import 90 per cent of its meat from neighbouring countries.

For many years the Liberian Government tended to pay more attention to rice cultivation and forestry development than to livestock growing.

FAO

And from the look of things, the National Investment Commission (NIC) does not make room for livestock development through external assistance.

This led Mr. E.O. Bayagbona, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Representative in Liberia, to say in an interview recently that NIC's investment program had "very little interest in livestock development."

Mr. Bayagbona, a Nigerian, said that "Liberia does not appear to have much interest in cattle development. Even fishery development does not appear in the NIC's plan," he added.

When NIC was contacted yesterday to comment, Mr. George N. Williams, Director of

Investment Promotions, said that in NIC's program, livestock development is a priority along with other agricultural activities.

He said, however, that certain requirements have to be met before NIC plunges into full-scale investment in this area of agriculture.

He explained that in the past, individuals presented private proposals for areas in which they were interested. Since they had the money to invest, the government could not force them to invest in areas in which they had less interest, such as livestock development, he said.

He said when a proposal is submitted, NIC analysis it for eligibility and for economic and financial viability in accordance with the terms of the National Investment Incentive Code enacted in 1966 and which was revised in 1973.

Mr. Williams said that incentives provided in the code for agricultural investment code are "helpful but not that useful in attracting more investment in agriculture." This is because agricultural machinery and other products like insecticides have all long been enjoying duty-free privileges.

However, Investment Promotions Director Williams said that before engaging in attracting people to come and invest in this area, the NIC must be armed with a sound package including feasibility studies.

Research

For this reason, the NIC is building up a research staff in order to improve internal capability to develop pre-feasibility studies that would eventually lead to full feasibility studies.

Mr. Williams said, however, that the realization of this depends on financial assistance for which applications have been made to international and multi-national organizations, as well as the European Economic Community and the West German Government, among others.

Meanwhile, one of the proposals the Liberian Government submitted to the Algerian inter-ministerial delegation which concluded a weeklong visit to Liberia a week ago, is about livestock development with Algeria's assistance.

When Mr. Mason of the Agriculture Ministry was approached to throw some light on the whole business of livestock development in Liberia, he made it clear that one of the main reasons why there has not been much emphasis on livestock development is because Liberia is not a sub-savannah country like Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali and Sierra Leone. "Liberia is highly forested and rainforested," he added.

However, he said there are certain areas in Liberia, which are ideal for cattle breeding. These are Foya in Lofa County, Sasstown in Sinoe County, and Grandcress, and Kru Coast Territory, in Maryland County.

He said there are presently between 25,000 and 30,000 animals in Liberia.

Minister Mason said that to do something about the 90 per cent of meat coming from outside, the Liberian Government in the 1970s approached the African Development Bank (ADB) in Abidjan for a \$1.5 million to \$2 million loan to establish nucleus ranches around the country, especially in Foya, Sasstown, Grandcress, and Kru Coast.

Sahel

He said the loan is still in the pipeline. We could go on forever spending a lot of money on animals from outside. He pointed out that cattle breeding is declining in the Sahel area and one fine day we may realize that we cannot depend on animals from outside.

CSO: 4700/1264

OAU DELEGATION CHIEF CALLS FOR MORE PRESSURE ON WESTERN CONTACT GROUP

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 11 May 82 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] The leader of a delegation representing the Liberation Committee of the OAU, Zairean Acting Foreign Minister Citoyen Pendje Demodedo Yako, has called on the Liberian Government to apply more pressure on the Western Contact Group which is seeking peaceful solution towards the Namibian independence.

The Western Contact Group comprises of Britain, Canada, France, the United States and West Germany.

The delegation arrived here over the weekend for talks with Liberian Acting Foreign Minister Christopher Minikon and other Liberian Government officials on the need for the implementation of the Arusha Plan of Action on Namibia.

Speaking during preliminary discussions held with Foreign Ministry officials Monday, Minister Yako said the mission of the delegation here is similar to one undertaken last year to

several North African countries to rally support for made by the Western Contact Group for Namibian independence because, according to them, they were taking "an inordinately long time."

Welcoming the OAU delegation to the meeting Monday, Acting Foreign Minister Christopher Minikon emphasized that the problem of Namibia is one in which Liberia has manifested interest for many years.

He recalled that it was Liberia along with other African states that had initially taken the case of South-West Africa, now Namibia, to the International Court of Justice.

Minister Minikon told the OAU delegation that Liberia has in the past made substantial financial contributions to the OAU Liberation Committee and continues to do so.

He then underscored the PRC's total commitment to the liberation struggle and to the fight for Namibia's independence in 1982.

ALGERIAN DELEGATION ACCEPTS GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS, DEPARTS

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 3 May 82 p 1

[Text]

The Inter-Ministerial delegation from Algeria left for home Thursday after agreeing to accept the technical and financial proposals submitted to it by the Liberian Government during five days of talks.

A Foreign Ministry release yesterday said both parties agreed that the proposals, which served as a working document for discussion, would be submitted to the competent authority of the Algerian Government to identify the most feasible areas for cooperation.

In the area of commerce, the two sides held wide-ranging discussions on ways and means of promoting trade between Algeria and Liberia.

At the end of the talks, the

Algerian and Liberian sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Foreign Minister H. Boima Fahnbulleh signed for Liberia and Ambassador-at-Large Chaib Taleb signed on behalf of the Algerian Government.

While the talks were taking place, an informed source told the Daily Observer that Liberia was to present to the Algerian delegation, four priority technical areas for cooperation and assistance from Algeria for their implementation.

The areas included oil credit facility by Algeria to the tune of \$6.6 million; undertaking of rural electrification with Algeria's assistance; a joint venture in mining; and cooperation in the development of livestock and poultry.

CSO: 4700/1221

LOCAL POULTRY PRODUCERS ASK GOVERNMENT TO ENFORCE IMPORTS BAN

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 4 May 82 pp 1, 10

[Article by Madison Meahyen]

[Excerpt]

There is growing concern among Liberian poultry producers over the massive influx of imported poultry, particularly chicken, which, they say, is harming the local industry.

Already, the hatchery at the Baker's Homegrown Poultry, Inc. which sold day-old chicks to many poultry farmers, has been shut down due to the lack of business; and many poultry yards are currently at a standstill.

The result is that many workers have been laid off, adding to the existing employment crisis facing the nation; while tens of thousands of dollars of already scarce foreign currency are being spent to import chickens from foreign producers.

The Baker hatchery was the only one operating in the country since the nation's number one chicks, eggs and broiler pro-

ducers, Sangai Farms, owned by Mesurado, came to a standstill following the April 12 Coup in 1980.

Local poultry producers are therefore calling on the Government to consider the situation as serious and to implement and enforce the ban on imported chicken, which was lifted following the April 12 Coup, when many poultry farms were in disarray.

When contacted, the Acting Minister of Agriculture, Col. James W. Coleman, said he was aware of the situation and promised that the current consignment of imported chicken on the market would be the last.

CSO: 4700/1221

MINISTER SAYS CHANCES 'SLIM' GOVERNMENT WILL ACCEDE TO LAMCO REQUEST

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 7 May 82 pp 1, 8, 10, 12

[Text]

The Minister of Labor, Mr. David G. Dwanyen, has told the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company that the chances are "slim" that the Liberian Government will accede to LAMCO's request to declare 96 Liberians redundant.

He told LAMCO's general manager, John Parvola, at a meeting Wednesday, that last year Government froze all strikes, then went on to dismiss 209 Liberians for staging an illegal strike; yet the Government did not ask that these workers be replaced.

Mr. Dwanyen asked, "What next now and how far can we go to continue pleasing the LAMCO management?" It was at this point that the Minister declared, "We cannot only please investors expense of displeasing our Liberian masses."

Mr. Dwanyen's remarks were

the most forthright by a Government Minister since the company, some time last year, put to Government the request to lay off 96 workers as "redundant". The company argued that business was bad, and that these people were not making much of a contribution to the company anyhow.

But some observers have heard it said that everytime the company feels it is in a tight financial squeeze, it is the Liberians first who are picked on, not the expatriates.

The Government, in a conscious attempt to keep the already grave unemployment situation from worsening, has been opting for discussion of the issue for months, in a bid to talk the company out of the lay-offs.

A Ministry of Commerce release, issued last night, said the Labor Minister put it straight to the LAMCO management when he asked, "How is it possible that LAMCO would declare Liberian employees redundant due to old age, and yet turn around and hire an expatriate employee who is 62 years old?"

The Minister affirmed that Government was still committed to Decree No 12, outlawing all strike actions, although it recognized that strikes were the right of workers after all bargaining efforts had failed. But, he warned, "To get rid of 96 persons at this time would surely bring political, social and economic problems to Government."

LAMCO general manager Mr. Parvola stated that of the 96 Liberian employees that are to be declared redundant 11 had left of their own will, adding that these employees had been found to be ineffective and unproductive and this is why he was trying to get rid of them in order to employ "the kind of people that the company needed."

Mr. Parvola said that there were possibilities that Bong Mining Company and LAMCO would continue operation after 1986. Currently LAMCO is shipping six million tons of iron ore every year but if that figure were increased to about 7.5 million tons every year, the operations would

continue.

Commenting on the Liberianization policy of the PRC Government, he said the company currently had 438 expatriate employees. He expressed hope that by January 1984, that number would be reduced to 284.

CSO: 4700/1221

NFMC TO RESUME OPERATIONS FOLLOWING FLOUR PRICE INCREASE

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 13 May 82 p 12

[Article by E. Willis Crayton]

[Text]

The National Flour Milling Company (NFMC), Liberia's only flour producer, situated in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, will resume its operation soon.

Disclosing this in an interview with the Daily Observer recently, a reliable Commerce Ministry source confirmed reports that government has been pleased to grant to the NFMC management an increase of \$4.48 on each 100lb bag of flour.

This will mean that the flour, which was sold at \$24.52 per 100lb bag, will now be sold at \$29.00 when the company resumes production "in the very near future", stated our source.

Management suspended operations few months ago to

negotiate with government for a price increase to cope with its high operational costs.

The suspension created widespread concern among "Life Flour" consumers, especially the bakers. The bakers seemed generally satisfied with the quality of "Life Flour" and some complained about the poor quality of certain brands of imported flour, sold at prices ranging between \$2.00 to \$3.00 per 5lb bag.

The exact date for the resumption of production is still unknown but it is believed that management is in the process of negotiating with their overseas creditors for a consignment of wheat.

CSO: 4700/1264

BRIEFS

RURAL PRESS PROGRAM EXPANSION--The Minister of Information, Col. Gray D. Allison said Tuesday that his Ministry hopes to expand the Rural Press Program throughout the country to disseminate essential information to a greater number of the Liberian masses. He said with the first phase of the project now operating in Gbarnga, Bong County, the second phase of the Rural Program, was expected to begin in Lofa County in the near future. [Excerpt] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 29 Apr 82 p 3]

FAO AGRICULTURAL AID--An emergency agricultural aid, totalling \$40,000 has been granted the Liberian Government by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The aid which included 120 tons nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (NPK) and 50 tons urea fertilizer, was recently requested from FAO by the Government of Liberia to help extension services in establishing field demonstration plots for improved rice cultivation in the country, according to an agriculture ministry release. [Excerpt] [Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 3 May 82 p 4]

AFL RETIREMENTS--Five hundred twenty-seven officers and enlistedmen of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) have been retired from active service. The number includes some army officers who were retired during the past regime but later re-instated following the Revolution to perform needed functions in the army. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G1 (in charge of personnel), Col. Peter T. Solo, in an interview with the OBSERVER Tuesday. [as published] [By T. Max Teah] [Text] [Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 6 May 82 p 3]

U.S.-LIBERIAN MANEUVERS END--Two company sizes of the 6th infantry battalion and the first infantry battalion of the armed forces of Liberia Monday completed a three-day joint maneuvers with the special forces of the U.S. at Bomi Territory. The exercise, which began Saturday, included field training, tactical demonstration, drills and ambush techniques. The 44 members of the special forces of the U.S. army under the command of Major Lynn Stull, participated as field instructor. The exercise director, Col. Maxwell Weah, who is also the planning and training officer of the armed forces of Liberia, said the exercise was designed to strengthen the Liberian army. [Excerpt] [Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 6 May 82 p 10]

MAURITIUS

PM CLARIFIES STAND ON COALITION WITH PMSD, RPL

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 3 Mar 82 pp 1, 4

[Text] Prime Minister Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam this morning cut short rumors which had circulated persistently in political circles since yesterday afternoon to the effect that he would dismiss Ministers Eliezer Francois, Paul Cheong Leong, and Kamil Ramoly in order to smoothe the way for a pro-Duval PT-PMSD entente. "That is not true," declared Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam to LE MAURICIEN, which questioned him on the matter. He has not, however, abandoned the idea of reconciling Duval and Francois, and will continue to seek grounds for an entente between the two PMSD factions and with the RPL.

The rumor had made the rounds of high political circles yesterday afternoon: Sir Seewoosagur, having already decided on the principle of an electoral accord with Gaetan Duval, had acceded to the latter's request to exclude the Francois group from the government as an essential condition for any dialogue. It was even said in Port Louis that the letters of dismissal were ready, with the governor general's signature, that they would be delivered yesterday afternoon to the pro-Francois ministers, and that MBC-TV would announce the dismissals at 1900. Nothing came of it. No letter was delivered to the ministers.

M Eliezer Francois, who was presiding over a regional meeting in the rue Dr Reid in Beau Bassin, in the presence of many Duvalist and Labor officials hostile to his group, commented on the rumor in these terms: "Dismissal? A joker! Whose dismissal?" M Francois then indicated to the press that he had been received that very morning in audience by Sir Seewoosagur, and that the latter had then confirmed to him that he wanted to go to the elections with the two PMSD factions united. He nevertheless indicated to Sir Seewoosagur that he desired no reconciliation with Duval.

What happened to cause that rumor suddenly to take on such proportions? It would seem, according to the cross-checking done by LE MAURICIEN, that the whole affair originated in the Jagatsingh camp.

Sir Kher Jagatsingh, PT secretary general, longtime opponent of Sir Gaetan Duval, and occasional open courtier of the MMM in recent years, has lately

regained better feelings towards Duval. Convinced that a pro-Duval PT-PMSD entente would enhance the government's chances against the MMM/PSM bloc, encouraged in that direction by SSS polls, and under pressure by Western embassies, he engineered a rapprochement with Duval, with Sir Seewoosagur's blessing. Sir Kher Jagatsingh also appears to have concluded that if the price to be paid for that alliance is the dismissal of Francois, then the PT should pay it. On several occasions in recent days Sir Kher declared to journalists that it is with Duval that Sir Seewoosagur will go to the elections.

Day before yesterday, Sir Kher Jagatsingh officially received Sir Gaetan Duval, who had come to discuss an alliance. Sir Gaetan stated his conditions: first, expulsion of the Francois group, then PT support for his pro-Western foreign policy. "No problem," Sir Kher reportedly replied. Yesterday morning, Sir Kher met with the prime minister in his office. He relayed Duval's conditions, and later said he had found Sir Seewoosagur receptive and very interested. The prime minister, for his part, entrusted to Jagatsingh an urgent mission to India, for which Sir Kher emplaned yesterday afternoon.

Early in the afternoon, the Jagatsingh camp informed the press that the Ramgoolam-Duval alliance was concluded and that Francois was "out." It was discreetly let out that "the letters are ready," and that they were even "seen." M Jagatsingh's principal colleague, PT president Burty David, when questioned by the press, did not deny that the dismissal was imminent. In Labor circles it was intimated that motorcyclists would bring his letter of dismissal to Francois during his Beau Bassin meeting. Labor officials close to Sir Kher Jagatsingh even surrounded the meeting place and, it was learned, prepared to salute with fireworks the announced suppression of the Francois group. Suspense pervaded the whole meeting, but no motorcyclists appeared.

This morning, displaying an exasperated and furious mien, the prime minister declared to the press that "it's not true."

A postponement? Such is the intimation this morning by pro-Jagatsingh circles, for there will be an agreement with Duval sooner or later, and the essential condition of such agreement is dismissal of the pro-Francois ministers. So, there is to be a sequel!

The Francois meeting, meanwhile, took place as planned.

During the meeting, a certain tension prevailed, for some local residents had made it known to M Francois that they would pelt him with rotten eggs, a threat which electrified the atmosphere. Yet only a single egg was thrown at M Francois, but did not hit him. His partisans, of whom there were quite a few in the crowd, reacted by giving chase to the egg thrower, who simply melted away in the crowd.

M Francois had quite some trouble restoring order before continuing his speech, in the main a reply to detractors who accused him of being anti-Hindu. He gave a long list of names of persons of the Hindu faith who have benefited from his support in the CHA or elsewhere.

The other speakers, including Dr Nundoochand, upheld M Francois' argument. Dr Nundoochand said that Francois had given him total support for his nomination to the presidency of Port Louis municipality, a support which was to be at the root, however, of the split in the PMSD.

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CSO: 4719/716

MAURITIUS

DETAILS ON PMSD (DUVAL) CONGRESS GIVEN

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 1 Mar 82 pp 6, 7

Excerpt "Rapid development based on a realistic and courageous foreign policy": such in summary is the promise made in the electoral manifesto of Sir Gaetan Duval's PMSD, which will be ready for distribution by the end of March, and whose major lines were laid down yesterday by a national party congress at the College Eden, Rose Hill; and such was the theme of an address by Sir Gaetan, lasting an hour and a half, at a PMSD meeting in the Place Mgr Margeot in the same town shortly thereafter.

Only the PMSD leader spoke at the meeting, which was attended by a crowd of some 8,000 attentive and enthusiastic persons, of whom some 4,000 to 5,000 had previously attended the congress.

The key idea developed by the PMSD leader, as mentioned above, was rapid development of the country through its foreign policy; and he disclosed that a group of ambassadors, queueing up at his door, had asked him not to be stubborn concerning the alliance with Prime Minister Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, so that the Soviet plan should not succeed, and that Mauritius and Reunion should not follow Madagascar and the Seychelles by becoming in their turn communist.

"Paul Berenger has just returned from Reunion, where even the communists are against the granting of independence to that island, but where he nevertheless declared that he, Berenger, favored independence for the sister island, but that the MMM would not force the Reunion islanders to accept it--as if they could," said the PMSD leader. "Do you think that idea comes from Trefles or the Plaine Verte? No, it comes directly from Moscow and the Kremlin," he exclaimed.

According to the speaker, the project aims at extending communist influence in Mauritius and Reunion--after Madagascar, the Seychelles, and the Comoros--so that Moscow would take the place of France and the United States in that region.

"But am I the stubborn one? Did not Sir Seewoosagur know that two forms of salaried compensation should not be allowed the workers of this country? And

all that unemployment? Sir Seewoosagur has one great fault: he does not concern himself with the voters, but with the deputies in the Assembly," said Sir Gaetan.

A Great Fault

According to the PMSD leader the PT, which announces an electoral bombshell, simply wants to create a senate--which means that the voters will have to feed not only the 70 members of the Legislative Assembly, but that many more in the senate--and all that just to content the people in his entourage. As for the MMM, it has never said just how it will lighten the unemployment problem.

"All that will be clearly defined in our manifesto, but would be rapidly resolved with my foreign policy," declared Sir Gaetan. "In 1973, when I was minister of foreign affairs, the French wanted to reopen the port of Mahebourg, which would have provided jobs, with the building of large hotels, among other things, to about 20,000 people. Between Curepipe and Port Louis, in the free zones, delegations from Taiwan proposed to set up 300 factories, which represents 40,000 more jobs.

"Those two projects alone would have done away with all our unemployed, but Ramgoolam never gave his assent. Instead, he had committed himself to the north airport project, and approximately 120 million rupees have been spent to acquire lands. And now the World Bank is opposed to that project, and recommends renovation of Plaisance."

Sir Gaetan spoke of other projects which could have been completed, and which would have brought about creation of new jobs, and he stressed that all large development projects date from his presence in the government.

But Sir Gaetan also brought out that for the moment several touristic projects are on ice while the promoters await the election results, for before going ahead they wish to assure themselves of the foreign policy to be followed by Mauritius. Likewise, 3,000 Mauritians could be hired by the Americans at Diego Garcia, but the latter are also awaiting results of the general election.

Concerning a possible alliance with the RPL, Sir Gaetan explained that that party had not been able to show the potential and numbers of its followers, but had announced that it would enter three candidates at Rose Hill and three at Curepipe. "Does it want us to go to Plaine-Verte?" asked the PMSD leader.

Vote For Me

As for the PT, said Sir Gaetan, it should get rid of all its deadweight in order to become a possible partner.

"The MMM has said that 1982 must be the year of change," said the speaker. "I know that Paul Berenger, once a trade unionist, has become managing director of Intracorp, and so was embarrassed recently at the sight of a poster which said 'Bosses drink workers' blood.' But if you want change, and no longer to see the same ministers on television, then vote for me, because I

have not been a minister for 10 years or a deputy for 5 years--it would be a change for me....I do, however, recommend one thing to you: you can change anything you like, but do not change my foreign policy, that I ask you on bended knee, for it would mean more misery and more stagnation for you," said Sir Gaetan.

A Major Factor

After also vaunting the advantages which could accrue to the overpopulated country from emigration of workers to Europe, Sir Gaetan emphasized that a severe drop in oil prices, if it should occur, could constitute a major factor.

"Are Berenger and Jugnauth interested in explaining to us what they would do with 100,000 unemployed? No, they are interested in preparing the budget... before being elected. If Berenger runs at Quatre-Bornes, he will not even be reelected. That is what is called being nasty. And, as I have already said, if Sir Seewoosagur wants us, let him get rid of Eliezer Francois so that we can talk. Ramgoolam must understand that he has to choose between Francois and his prime minister's seat, which by now must have the shape of his posterior."

Sir Gaetan Duval stressed that the crowd he had drawn to his meeting meant the political death of M Eliezer Francois and his lieutenants, "who were protected by the Riot Unit from people who had no intention of attacking them.

"Moreover, you must have realized that you have no future with the communist MMM. Faithful followers have also told me that even if I did not ally myself with Ramgoolam my party would still be strong in the cities....On a Sunday such as this, why are you here, and why do I myself organize congresses and public meetings? Simply because we are afflicted with the same illness: we love our country! If Ramgoolam gets rid of Francois, we can sit down with him and discuss how to fight communism. But I am moved to see so many of you, still answering my call. May your enthusiasm grow, so that on 11 June your numbers may constitute the mass of victory," Sir Gaetan concluded.

An Imposing Parade

All the traditional devices of the Duvalist organization had been employed for yesterday's congress and meeting, with innumerable blue flags and garments, with cars and motorcycles taking part in an imposing parade.

Perched on the shoulders of his adherents, Sir Gaetan arrived at Eden College before the congress, and so he left the congress to make his way to the Place Margeot.

Major concerns of the congress were amendments to party statutes made necessary by the PMSD split, the party platform, and election strategy and tactics.

The party president and secretary general, MM P. Simonet and A. Driver spoke at the congress, as did Mme Ghislaine Henry and MM Carpen, M Florent, N, Kistnen, and M. Fakira, Sir Gaetan saving his words for the meeting.

MAURITIUS

DETAILS ON PMSD (FRANCOIS) CONGRESS GIVEN

Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 1 Mar 82 p 7

Text "The road must be barred to the communists. I call on you to mobilize! Democracy is threatened." In such terms did M Eliezer Francois brandish the communist menace at a congress which drew some 1,500 people to the Plaza convention hall yesterday.

Speakers at the congress made it a point to state emphatically that those present had come of their own accord and by their own means, and that there had been no propaganda posters, mobile loudspeakers, or free transportation.

In his message, which he called one of hope for Mauritians, the PMSD leader pleaded for defense of democracy and denounced campaigns which he said were preparing the ground for communism. According to M Francois "the enemies of democracy have launched a campaign of fear, threats, intimidation, and terrorism."

He asked "who are the men who organize cells, regional units, and direct a politburo?" adding later that "they want to spread the belief that they are not communists, but they use the communist method to attain power." That method, according to M Francois, aims at exploiting all favorable occasions to demonstrate, create disorder, and force the country to its knees. In M Francois' view "communism with a human face smiles upon you, talks to you of friendship, but knifes you in the back."

He asked those present for their support in the fight for democracy and victory. Indeed, the pro-Francois PMSD device is "Hope--Combat--Victory." M Francois also gave guarantees to all citizens--women, students, artisans, civil servants, and investors--that their rights and liberties would be safeguarded.

In another context, M Francois spoke of the schism within the PMSD. In his view the PMSD, which represents the minorities, has strayed from the path laid down by the late Jules Koenig, and the pro-Francois PMSD is endeavoring to restore to the party its true image.

M Paul Chong Leung, party president, also spoke in his speech of the reasons for the split. In his opinion, the party was bearing the heavy burden of "a

few parasites" and it was necessary to eliminate them. M Chong Leung added that without that purification "the PMSD would have been massacred at the next elections."

It is also his opinion that the PMSD ministers form a serious and homogeneous team, and that the pro-Francois PMSD "which is the true PMSD" represents worthy persons prepared to work for liberty.

M Guy Edmond, party secretary general, who presided, explained to those present why the former PMSD was losing ground. According to him that was due, among other things "to the reign of the cadgers" which destroyed the PMSD, to betrayal of the party backers' confidence, and to introduction of all kinds of people into its executive.

M Kamil Ramoly, first party vice president, declared in his speech that ministries taken over by the PMSD were doing good work, and that the ministers represented "a loyal but not unconditional ally."

Chairmen of municipal administrative committees under PMSD control, including Dr Koshlendr Nundoochand of Port Louis, M Robert Rey of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, and M Clement Mootoo of Curepipe were presented to the audience and spoke at the congress.

The Francois Group Political Bureau

The political bureau of the pro-Francois PMSD was presented to the congress, and is composed of the following:

Leader: M Eliezer Francois; president: M Paul Chong Leung; first vice president: M Kamil Ramoly; second vice president: Dr Koshlendr Nundoochand; third vice president: M V. Rengasamy; fourth vice president: M Cyril Lebon; secretary general: M Guy Edmond; press relations officer /?: M Clement Mootoo; treasurer: M Maurice E. Noel; first legal counsel: M Robert Rey; second legal counsel: M Jacques Tsang Man Kin.

Some 15 other persons are members of the political bureau.

M Francois stated that the bureau is presently working on the party manifesto. He also announced that M Noel, party treasurer, would be a candidate at Curepipe.

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CSO: 4719/718

MAURITIUS

BRIEFS

LP CAMPAIGN--The Labor party has chosen Belle Rive, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam's native village, to launch his election campaign--with brilliance, it is said. Indeed, on Thursday 11 March, or 24 hours before the national holiday marking the 14th anniversary of independence, Labor will organize a mass demonstration there, during which the prime minister will personally kick off the Labor campaign. The party, which has completed its platform and established its slate of candidates, will be in a position to announce on that occasion the major planks in its platform and to present party candidates. Labor will also make full use of the independence celebrations to bring to the fore the government's achievements, and particularly those of the Labor party. Text Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 1 Mar 82 p 17 6145

POLICE INCREASED--Some 150 new policemen will be recruited in the coming weeks in view of the forthcoming legislative elections set for 11 June. The authorities plan to reinforce police effectives so as to be able to provide good law and order maintenance during the campaign and elections. This necessity has made itself felt, police circles say, in recent months during which a resurgence of thefts and violence has been noted throughout the country. Police authorities have thus been led to realize that investigations were often dragged out owing to policemen having to spread out their efforts because of personnel shortages in certain sectors of the police service. This situation has worsened recently due to the fact that a number of policemen have left on vacation and others have retired. Recruitment of these 150 new policemen will, it is thought, permit this situation to be appreciably improved. Text Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 27 Feb 82 p 17 6145

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CSO: 4719/718

SYPOA OFFICIAL DISCUSSES INTEROCCUPATIONAL DRAFT AGREEMENT TALKS

Dakar AFRICA in French No 139, Mar 82 pp 45-46, 94

[Interview with Mr Souleymane Sidibe, president of SYPOA (West African Employers Union by AFRICA; date and place not specified]

[Text] Negotiations between the National Confederation of Senegalese Workers (CNTS) and the employer organization, which deal with the national interoccupational community draft agreement and have been going on for 3 years, are drawing to a close. These negotiations concern the future of all workers in Senegal and will influence the quality of its economic machinery. We questioned Mr Souleymane Sidibe, president of SYPOA (West African Employers Union) and an active representative of the Senegalese employers' organization, who has participated in these difficult negotiations since their inception.

[AFRICA] Mr Souleymane Sidibe, you offer this rather unusual anomaly, for an employer representative, of having for many long years been an active trade unionist representing the workers.

[Souleymane Sidibe] Yes, for a long time before becoming president of the West African Employers Union of Small and Medium-Size Businesses and Small and Medium-Size Industries [SYPAOA, West African Employers and Artisans Union], I was a militant, between 1947 and 1957, successively for the General Confederation of Labor (CGT), the Workers' Force and the General Union of Workers of Black Africa--UGTAN.

[Question] Did this union training help you in assuming your duties as employer organization representative?

[Answer] I am proud of my trade unionist past, as it allows me to better understand the true positions of the employers and to detect the weaknesses of the trade unionists vis-a-vis the employers. Thus, I can better reconcile the workers' needs and those of the employers within the framework of the national interest.

[Question] That must not be easy, considering that most of the time, for the trade unionists, the boss is the enemy to knock down!

[Answer] Before independence, the goals of workers' unions were not only occupational but political. For them, it was a question of gaining autonomy and independence at the same time; this as a consequence entailed systematic opposition toward the foreign employers.

With independence, relations between workers and employers must be reviewed and reconsidered.

[Question] In what way?

[Answer] In the sense of complementarity as regards the safeguarding of the national interest. My past training and my present experience allow me to better appreciate the responsibilities on both sides.

[Question] What, in your opinion, are these responsibilities?

[Answer] For the workers, they must not lose sight of the fact that they belong to an underdeveloped country with limited resources. Trade unionists must thus be courageous enough to remind the workers of this, and explain to them that their interests and responsibilities are bound up with those of the country's other social groups.

[Question] What does this mean?

[Answer] This means that the workers and their representatives must be more concerned with the national interest. This new consciousness of the national interest should lead them to present well-chosen claims, which the country's economy is able to support. They must not lose sight of the fact that it is not foreigners who should develop the country, but mainly nationals, including the working class.

[Question] And what are the responsibilities of the employers?

[Answer] Personally, I think there should be only one employer organization, which would include both nationals and foreigners. This employer organization should be national, should have a national direction; that is, it should be ready to take on and assume its share of responsibilities, in agreement with the government and with the workers, with the intent of finding the best solutions for the economic development not of a particular corporation or economic sector but of the nation. This, it seems to me, is what the government expects from Senegalese employers.

[Question] Do you think that on the part of foreign employers this is possible?

[Answer] Yes! I know many foreign heads of corporations who share my positions regarding the real national employer organization and who, in their daily behavior, put the general interest before their own.

[Question] You are participating actively in the negotiations on the national interoccupational community draft agreement, which is to take the place of the different existing community agreement. This is a very

important event for Senegal because of the economic and financial consequences which will derive from it. Has the complementarity which you advocate between workers and employers been apparent during the 3 years of negotiations?

[Answer] Unfortunately, it has not existed. The provisions contained in the draft presented by the CNTS reminded me of my years as a trade unionist. I found on the part of today's trade unionists the same relentless determination in defending their claims as [was the case] 25 years ago. The draft's provisions aim mainly at improving the living conditions of the working class. I want especially to point out the lengthening of the paid leave period for sickness and widowhood, the rate increase for various allowances, the greater power of staff delegates within the corporation, etc....

[Question] Isn't this normal?

[Answer] As doctrine, yes! On the national level, it lacks realism, considering current economic difficulties. The improvement of living and working conditions should be the consequence of economic enrichment. Nowhere in this community draft agreement do there appear provisions relating, for example, to the growth of productivity and to a strengthening of professional consciousness.

[Question] What has been the employers' attitude about this during the negotiations?

[Answer] Most of the people who have negotiated on the employers' side are foreigners who have been in Senegal for only a few years. Most likely, genuine national employers would have shown greater resistance to some claims whose consequences have a strong possibility of mortgaging the future. Considering themselves more affected, feeling the weight of certain provisions more keenly, they would have shown more determination.

[Question] But you yourself participate in these negotiations?

[Answer] As a Senegalese, I have felt it to be part of my duty to put the unionists as well as my employer colleagues on their guard. For me, that has caused some difficult times. I have observed that our questioners would have preferred to carry on a dialogue exclusively with the foreign employers, who because of the circumstances were categorized as progressive employers, and were probably more prompt than the nationals to make concessions.

[Question] Have people not gone so far as to categorize you as a reactionary employer?

[Answer] That can be explained by the fact that I acted as spokesman for a truly national employer organization, but this organization really does not exist anymore. So I was psychologically isolated.

[Question] However, Senegalese heads of corporations are more and more numerous!

[Answer] At the corporation level, of course; but most of these heads of corporations feel themselves obligated principally to their corporations, and not sufficiently to the community. Many call for the help and understanding of government, but they forget that as compensation for these advantages there should be active participation above and beyond their businesses--in economic development, and especially in the social progress of the nation.

[Question] Do you believe, then, that they are not sufficiently concerned about it?

[Answer] This unfortunately has been demonstrated by their absence from the negotiations with the working class representatives and from the governing structures of institutions of a social nature such as IPRES, the Social Security Fund, IPM.... It appears that at the level of the businesses themselves, too often they do not allow their personnel to benefit from the social advantages, even though these are legally mandatory.

[Question] If I have understood correctly, at the negotiations on the national community agreement, whose consequences are of the utmost importance for Senegal's future, the participants were, on the one hand, worker representatives concerned especially with the fate of their own constituents, and on the other hand the employers, mostly foreigners who, consequently, were not sufficiently concerned. But what was the position of the government representatives?

[Answer] The government did not participate in these discussions.

[Question] However, isn't the government by far the largest employer in Senegal?

[Answer] Of course. The state employees, those of the national corporations, and of the joint corporations, who do not have civil servant status, are as numerous as the latter and, by extension, will be governed by the new community agreement.

[Question] How do you explain this absence?

[Answer] Perhaps the government stayed away from these negotiations with the aim of possible later arbitration. This position could be understood if the government, business and workers fulfilled their role as I defined it at the beginning. I have been able to observe that this has not been the case. This is why the government's participation in the negotiations through civil servants, other than those of the Government Labor Bureau (Direction du Travail), whose role is to reconcile the positions of the parties present, would doubtless have permitted both sides to conduct the negotiations in a more realistic manner.

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CSO: 4719/784

DETAILS OF DEMONSTRATIONS, INTIMIDATION, SECURITY BILLS GIVEN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 4

[From the "Parliament" page]

[Text]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — A Bill providing for the prohibition of demonstrations or gatherings held without the permission of a magistrate in or within 500m of a court, passed its committee stage yesterday.

The Demonstrations in or Near Court Buildings Prohibition Bill was opposed by the Progressive Federal Party on the grounds that it took away the right to assemble.

"We already have the Riotous Assemblies Act which prohibits outdoor meetings of any kind," Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP Houghton) said. Now any innocent bystander who found himself in the middle of a demonstration in or near a court building could be arrested and charged.

"The ordinary right of assembly has disappeared in South Africa without people realising it," she said. "Finally we become the si-

lenced society in South Africa with no right of protest whatsoever."

Mr Louis le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, said that people who wanted to assemble at or near a court could seek permission from a magistrate. The interests of the State in this instance had preference over the interests of the individual.

There was nothing in the legislation which prohibited the ordinary attendance by people of any court proceedings.

Members of the PFP had asked, how it was possible for "one person" carrying out a peaceful placard demonstration outside a building to cause a disruption of court proceedings.

Mr Le Grange maintained that a "one-man" demonstration could easily lead to further demonstrations and meetings as well as riots.

It was the aim therefore that the vicinity of

a court building should be normal and quiet so as not to disturb the proceedings taking place within it.

The PFP Chief Whip, Mr Alf Widman, and Mr Ray Swart (Durban, Berea) made it clear that the PFP was very much in favour of court proceedings taking place peacefully and without disruption.

It was unjust therefore, Mr Widman said, to say that his party stood for demonstrations. Court proceedings should take place in a dignified way.

Mr Swart said the Government was again coming to parliament with a measure aimed at a "total overkill".

It was totally unreasonable and ridiculous to say that a "one-man" demonstration outside a court building could be regarded as a gathering or a demonstration.

The clause was passed after a division, the CP and NRP voting with the Government.

Detention for Interrogation 'Still Necessary'

THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, moved the second reading of the Internal Security Bill, aimed at giving effect to certain of the recommendations of the Rabie Commission which inquired into security

legislation.

Mr Le Grange said the country faced a new dispensation in its security legislation and its application. There was no doubt that the changes would be welcomed. South Africa was pres-

ented with new challenges which should be faced with determination.

The commission had given close attention to the question of detention for interrogation purposes and had found that this was

still necessary. Provision for this was made in the Bill, he said.

Because of the importance of the legislation he would prefer to continue his speech today and moved the adjournment of the House.

NRP 'Totally Opposed' to Intimidation

THE New Republic Party was totally opposed to the evil of intimidation which had to be rooted out of society, Mr Brian Page of Umhlanga, said.

Supporting the second reading of the In-

timidation Bill, he said he believed intimidation was one of those things that should not be allowed to have "degrees", the same as a "little bit of murder" could not have degrees.

"We are totally op-

posed to intimidation. It is an evil that must be rooted out of our society."

There was not a shadow of a doubt, he said, that intimidation was taking place in South Africa.

"We are supporting this legislation.

There is no way that we can do otherwise."

He had the fullest confidence in the courts imposing suitable sentences for intimidation.

CSO: 4700/1222

TREURNICHT OPPOSES POWER-SHARING, PC'S PROPOSALS

CP Opposes Domination

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 3

[Text] DR Andries Treurnicht says his Conservative Party is prepared to agree to "power division", but will never accept a policy of power sharing.

Addressing about 500 people at the Rand Afrikaans University, he said: "There is no such thing as healthy power sharing. It is a sick process, leading to the sacrifice of self-determination."

The CP was not interested in a governing system with both Blacks and Whites forming part of one government and one Cabinet, as the Afrikaner would have to sacrifice his right to self-determination, Dr Treurnicht said.

An effective political power was desired and Dr Treurnicht felt such a power should be demanded by the Afrikaner.

"That is what my party does. We demand an effective political power in this country. The denial of it would be unfair."

He said his party could never agree with proposals made by the President's Council, as it was not willing to be dominated by any other group.

"We are, however, prepared to give more power and more space than what many other politicians promise," he told the meeting.

Dr Treurnicht said the Afrikaner had a "nation consciousness" that would prevent him from discarding his political power in South Africa.

"Only a dying nation is prepared to discard its political powers, only a dying nation is prepared to integrate."

Referring to the homeland situation, Dr Treurnicht said it was necessary to make "choices" in this regard every day.

"Blacks in the homelands have lost their sense of citizenship, because they are involved in the economy of another land--something drastic has to be done about it."

He said the Afrikaner had not only fought for his own freedom and for a right to self-determination, but also for the freedom of other races.

"We fought for separate development in this country, until it was said 'apartheid lives.'"

He accused the Government of rejecting the possibility of power sharing "unconditionally" until the end of February this year.

"Now, a Parliament with three chambers for the different races, are being mentioned--if that is going to be a President's Council proposal, it will be the biggest somersault I've ever seen in South African politics."

He said a mixed government, ruling over him and his people, would mean nothing more than a definite move towards Progressive Federal Party policy.

"Healthy power sharing is not a kind of shared responsibility which doesn't affect the political sovereignty of the other nation involved. And the highest political power, ruling a country, is not willing to have a super power dominating it."

Dr Treurnicht said the Afrikaner would seize and reign South Africa the moment another race was allowed to reign with, and share, the political power and superiority of the Afrikaner.

"If it is so important for the Blacks to have political power, then it is our duty to fight for our survival," he said.

Reason for Leaving NP

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 12

[Text]

THE President's Council's constitutional proposals contain power-sharing and mixed government — issues which the Conservative Party members opposed while they were still in the National Party, CP leader Dr Andries Treurnicht said yesterday.

He said the recommendations "proved in writing that the GOVERNMENT has accepted a mixed executive power.

"Our opposition to these standpoints of the NP behind the scenes at the time were the very reasons why we (the CP) were driven out of the NP.

"We took up a strong standpoint against any form of power-sharing. And it led to disagreement in NP circles and to the reason for the NP driving us out," he said.

"I think it is now clear for the whole nation to see for themselves why the CP members were driven out of the NP, because these standpoints now being put forward as recommendations by the President's Council were the very proposals which we refused to accept while still being inside the NP."

Dr Treurnicht said Government spokesmen referred to and backed former Prime Minister Mr John Vorster with regard to his standpoint on an Executive Council of Cabinets, and "they adopted it as the present Government standpoint".

He said Government spokesmen made it clear that

Mr Vorster's standpoint included an Executive Council of Cabinets with executive powers.

"This was now exactly what the President's Council was proposing -- a proposal for which the Government has already accepted paternity," he said.

"I can hardly imagine how the Government could now reject its earlier direct adoption of its standpoint on a mixed executive, which was in fact its own baby," Dr Treurnicht added.

"Should the Government decide to reject it, the question would automatically arise why the proposal of present CP members at the Transvaal head committee meeting at the time, in which they rejected power-sharing and mixed government, was not accepted, and why then were we driven out on this very issue."

Dr Treurnicht said the proposals deviated drastically from the National Party's own 1981 election manifesto.

He said the CP rejected any form of mixed government or integration at all levels of government," and for that reason the President's Council's proposals are all totally unacceptable to the CP".

CSO: 4700/1223

F W DE KLERK EXPLAINS WHY BLACKS EXCLUDED FROM POWER-SHARING

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 3

[Article by Marilyn Cohen: "City Blacks Belong to Their Nation"]

[Text] The "fundamental difference" between Whites, Coloureds and Indians on the one hand, and Blacks on the other, was the reason why Blacks were not to be included in the new constitutional dispensation for South Africa.

This was said by the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and the leader of the National Party in the Transvaal, Mr F W de Klerk, at the Rand Afrikaans University yesterday.

The problem of the "so-called urban Blacks" was, however, going to be one of the most difficult for the country to solve, he said.

Two Levels

"I say 'so-called' urban Blacks because there are millions of Blacks who do not live in the national states, but who also do not live in the large urban areas. A solution also has to be found for these people as well."

On the local level, political expression for the urban Blacks could be found through their community councils which could develop into fully-fledged local authorities.

"But on the higher level, they must find political expression through their own people in the national states," said Mr De Klerk. "And the vast majority of Blacks want to belong to, or accept, that they belong to a particular group."

Nationals

"The problem is--and it is not only the problem of the National Party but also of the leaders of the national states--how this political expression can be achieved.

"To the leaders of the national states, the people living outside their land are not just 'urban Blacks'--they are members of their nation," Mr De Klerk said.

Warning

It was, therefore, wrong to say that the urban Blacks were just like the Coloureds and Indians, as the Coloureds and Indians had never had their own traditional homelands as the Blacks had.

"It is not part of the National Party policy to include Blacks in the same dispensation as Whites, Coloureds and Indians. But it is also impossible to completely separate all the different racial groups," he said.

He warned the more than 200 students who attended the meeting--some obviously supporters of Dr Andries Treurnicht's Conservative Party--not to be swept up in emotional debate which would rage over the President's Council's reports

"Don't accept what others say in the National Party's viewpoint on the Council's recommendations.

"The government has not yet taken a decision and, only after there have been in-depth discussions and debates, will it do so.

CSO: 4700/1223

PROPOSAL FOR EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT CREATES ROW

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 pp 1, 2, 6

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text] **Dictator or democrat? This was the basis of a row which broke out yesterday over the President's Council's proposal for an executive President who would appoint the Premier and his Cabinet under a new non-parliamentary executive system.**

The Leader of the Opposition, Dr van Zyl Slabbert, warned against an individual who can "exercise almost dictatorial powers", and the leader of the Conservative Party, Dr Treurnicht, warned against a new system that "inclines towards dictatorship."

The chairman of the constitutional committee, Dr Dennis Worrall, assured The Citizen, however, that the executive President would not have unlimited powers.

Dr Worrall said the new constitution would provide for the future White, Coloured and Indian legislature to be able to "impeach the executive president" if necessary.

Cabinet

The President would have the right to appoint the Prime Minister and, in consultation with him, also the cabinet ministers who could include Indians and Coloureds, to form the parliamentary executive.

The ethnic composition of the cabinet was not prescribed.

Dr Worrall said with regard to the powers of the proposed executive president he "should be the initiator of legislation, that he should have the right to dissolve the legislature and that he could submit matters to the test of referendum."

"There would be enough checks and balances built into the future constitution so that the executive President would still be dependent on the majority support of the legislature."

Power growth

Dr Worrall said the President's Council recommended the introduction of a non-parliamentary executive.

"This is not an exceptional deviation from South African politics, because the power of

the Prime Minister has grown enormously relative to the cabinet and Parliament over the last 30 to 40 years."

The 1977 constitutional plan and the 1979 draft constitution similarly contained the principle of an executive President.

"The President's Council has simply taken the thing through to its logical conclusion by introducing a non-parliamentary executive in the full sense of the word."

Election

"The President will be indirectly elected by an electoral college consisting, eventually, of White, Coloured and Indian legislators for a period of seven years — a fixed term of office — but he could be re-elected."

table.

"There will be provision in the constitution for his impeachment and so on.

"However, in relation to the legislature, he will be responsible for the initiation of legislation."

There was some misunderstanding with respect to the checks and balances.

Checks

"The fact is that the legislature will be able to check the President in several respects.

"First, there is the budgetary process. Obviously he is dependent

upon the legislature for the Budget.

"Secondly there is the legislative process and he is dependent upon the legislature for the passage of laws.

"Thirdly there is the fact that policy needs to be approved." This would be to a much greater extent in the envisaged new legislature than in the present Parliament.

A fourth factor was the convention relating to censure and no-confidence, as applied at the present moment. They would naturally apply to the premier and the cabinet — both

to individual ministers and cabinet collectively.

"In other words the legislature can bring them down.

Majority rule

"It should also be pointed out that, given the great complexity of the new legislature, majorities will not be assumed and the executive will have to work for majorities in the legislature."

The President's Council's constitutional committee was satisfied that there would be "sufficient built-in

checks in the power of the executive," he stressed.

The executive President would have no "direct powers" as such.

"He will have the powers which are presently vested in the state President, which are more ceremonial than anything else.

"But he will act as part of an executive team and the executive function will be vested in the President, the premier and the cabinet," Dr Worrall said.

President

We are going to have many arguments over the President's Council's proposals, not only over power sharing but over other aspects as well.

One issue that has already caused grave concern is the proposal to appoint an executive President.

Since the President's Council has not put forward a complete blueprint, it has been assumed that the executive President will virtually have dictatorial powers.

He will, for example, "appoint the Premier and, after consultation with him, the members of the Cabinet, who will serve at the pleasure of the President."

In addition to the functions at present performed by the State President, he will preside over meetings of the Cabinet.

He will initiate legislation, have the right to dissolve the legislature, and will be able to submit matters to the test of referendums.

The first President will be elected by the present House of Assembly, which will continue in its present form until such time as the constitutional committee's recommendations with regard to the legislative function have been finalised.

It is not clear whether the first incumbent will serve for the stipulated seven years, or whether there will be another election before this period expires and the legislature consists of White, Coloured and Indian members who will form an electoral college to choose the President.

The President will appoint members of all

three groups to his Cabinet, but the ratio is not prescribed.

The Premier, Ministers and Deputy Ministers will be expected to take part in the legislative function as they do now, though they will not be elected members of the legislature.

The Premier will be concerned with the day-to-day administration of the country, with the co-ordination of the work of the Ministers, and with the relationship between the executive and the legislature.

Suggestions that the President will have virtually uncontrolled powers have been denied. He will, it is said, exercise, but no longer symbolically, the same powers as the present State President.

He will be no figurehead, but the country's leader in terms of power as well as name.

It is also said that the legislature will have the right to impeach him, if necessary. Such safeguards should have been spelled out in the constitutional committee's report — and if anyone has misguidedly gained the impression that a virtual dictator is proposed, the committee is to blame.

However, whatever explanations are now given, we do not accept that the Presidency will be as bland as is now suggested.

For one thing, the committee makes it clear that it wants a powerful leader who will be able to impose the reforms that the country needs.

We quote from the report:

"The committee has answered the need for reform by proposing a non-parliamentary executive headed by a President; and it has answered the needs of the poly-ethnicity of the society by insisting that the President be elected in such a way as to encourage him to be supra-ethnic, because, true to the *leitmotiv* of the state, he should govern in the general interests and not in pursuit of sectional interest.

"The President as chief executive would be more easily able to control the strong divisive tendencies in South African society and at the same time gain broad support for measures of reform that would greatly improve community relations without endangering stability.

"In a nutshell, a non-parliamentary executive would provide a structure of government within which it would be easier to eliminate groupdomination and to secure peaceful and continuous reform."

Clearly the President is going to be an all-powerful man, otherwise why give him the right to appoint his Cabinet and Prime Minister, who will not be elected members of the legislature, and to dissolve the legislature.

Unless there are the necessary checks and balances, unless the President's powers are circumscribed so that he cannot act dictatorially, the system of an executive President should not be supported by anyone who values democratic rule.

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VAN DER MERWE DEFENDS PC'S PROPOSALS AS 'JUST COMPROMISE'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 4

[From the "Parliament" page]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — The first report on constitutional reform at local and regional authority level had established a just compromise between full and equitable rights and the accommodation of the realities of a heterogeneous South African society, Dr Schalk van der Merwe, Deputy Chairman of the President's Council, said in Cape Town yesterday.

Dr Van der Merwe moved a motion that the Council discuss and adopt the joint report of the Economic Affairs and Constitutional Committees on local and regional government systems.

The negotiating process in the President's Council had given rise to far greater understanding among all its members of what the real problems in South Africa were, he said.

"The perspective which every member has gained by actually being confronted with the negotiation process and the realisation that between the different poles of thought a just

compromise has to be achieved, is the starting point of an intensive negotiation effort which will characterise South African political life over the next few years," Dr Van der Merwe said.

What was imperative now was that the perspective which existed among members of the President's Council had also to be made part of the understanding of South African society in general.

"For meaningful decisions it is an absolute requirement of democracy for every person to be fully informed."

After setting out the aims, philosophy and recommendations of the report, he appealed to the media and all those prepared to activate public opinion to opt for peace and survival instead of conflict and chaos in the South Africa of the future.

They could make a valuable contribution "by presenting this starting point of reform in such a way that it will result in a better understanding among all people in South Africa," Dr Van der Merwe said.

'Blacks Should be Included'

BLACK people should be included with Whites, Coloureds and Indians in the reformed local and regional government system proposed by the President's Council, Mr M Rajab said in the Council's plenary session yesterday.

South Africa could successfully combat the total onslaught only if full civil and political rights were granted to all population groups, he said in the debate on the joint report of the Committee for Economic Affairs and the Constitution Committee on local and regional management.

Segregation itself was discrimination and where continued segregation was recommended by the Council, this would not be acceptable to the Indian community, said Mr Rajab, a member of the joint committee which drafted the report.

He said that although he had signed the report, he could not support it without qualification.

"Despite the limitations the report is a sincere and genuine point

of departure for realistic reform which could point the way for the direction in which the country should be governed," he said.

Despite the fact that the committee's assignment was restricted to Whites, Coloureds and Indians the chairman, Dr Schaik van der Merwe, had adopted a "colour blind" approach and due note had been taken of the important role played by urban Blacks in local and regional economies.

The committee had worked from the basis that the right of any person making a material contribution to the welfare of a local community had to be recognised.

"Why should Blacks be treated differently from non-Blacks in a way that is contrary to the spirit of the report?" Mr Rajab asked.

He was impressed by the desire of "my White colleagues" for genuine reform, but good intentions were not enough.

"We must also realise that time is not necessarily on our side."

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GIBSON: GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE TO TURN TO PFP FOR SUPPORT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 4

[From the "Parliament" page]

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

THE President's Council proposals could mean a further dramatic decrease in Government support — and Government backpedalling to retain support, Mr Douglas Gibson, leader of the PFP said in the Transvaal Provincial Council.

Commenting on the first report, Mr Gibson told The Citizen that the Government could well find itself in the position of admitting that PFP support was vital in the interests of meaningful constitutional change.

The party was at present adopting a cautious approach to the whole subject. The recommendations on provincial and local Government were only the first of a series of reports and it was necessary to know the whole package for change before commenting in detail.

"It has taken the President's Council more than a year to produce this report and it would be premature to make any definite statements at this stage," he said.

It was necessary now to wait for the Govern-

ment's reaction to the proposals — some of which seemed to run counter to official Nat Party dogma.

"It will be very interesting to see if there are any further significant defections to the Conservative Party," he said.

If so, the Government might well take fright and water down the proposals or reject some of them, accepting only those calculated to do the least harm to party unity.

The PFP had no intention of surrendering its unique bargaining position which had been brought about by the dramatic decrease in support for the Nat Party.

"The Government cannot now be certain of majority support if it holds a referendum on the President's Council recommendations.

"And PFP support would be vital because nearly a quarter of the voters now support the party — which also has links with Coloured and Asian parties whose reaction to the proposals is crucial."

PRESIDENT COUNCIL'S PROPOSALS GREETED WITH MIXED REACTIONS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 pp 1, 2, 6

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text] CAPE TOWN.--The President's Council's proposals for reform of local and central government were yesterday greeted with mixed reactions.

The Conservative Party rejected the proposals as "nothing other than Progressive Federal Party policy."

The New Republic Party welcomed the Council's recommendations as an endorsement of its own policy.

However, the PFP said the proposals were definitely not PFP policy and the caucus would first decide whether they constituted "a step in the right direction" before commenting.

The leader of the Herstigte Nasionale Party, Mr Jaap Marais, rejected the proposals as a form of power sharing.

Leader of the CP Dr Andries Treurnicht told The Citizen on the first report of the President's Council tabled yesterday, "boils down to integration from top to bottom in the entire State household."

"It is nothing other than Prog policy."

Integrated

"The proposals constitute integrated structures on a regional basis, on top of which nothing else but an integrated central

Government could be built."

The principles of separate development, as were presently being executed on this level of Government, were being rendered meaningless by the proposals, he said.

"The recommendations approach of not enforcing integration is also a typical PFP approach," he added.

Dr Treurnicht further said the recommendation that non-Whites be given representation in White local management committees "was only the thin end of the wedge to total integration" in South Africa.

A very satisfied leader of the NRP, Mr Vause Raw, said the NRP welcomed the overall endorsement of its policy for local Government reflected in the recommendations of the joint report from the Council.

"The recognition of South Africa's plural society reflected in the principle of the maxi-

mum control of intimate affairs by each community in viable local authorities with metropolitan authorities dealing with common services and planning falls four-square within the policy and principles of the NRP, as does the provision for minority representation.

The leader of the official Opposition, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, told The Citizen last night that the report on local affairs had been tabled in the President's Council only yesterday and his caucus would like to study it in depth before commenting.

Dr Slabbert warned that the report should be considered calmly because there was not much time left for peaceful constitutional development in South Africa.

"The report therefore also deserves the PFP's serious attention."

"One aspect in the report which deserves serious consideration, al-

though one cannot adopt any final position on it, is the attempt by the President's Council to accommodate, on local Government at least, the various communities in a non-discriminatory manner.

"But unfortunately it is doing so within a discriminatory structure.

"One cannot really consider this report in isolation from the other reports to be tabled soon and all I want to say at this stage is that the PFP would want a full discussion as soon as possible in its caucus on the tabled local affairs report before we take any final position on it.

"Although the recommendations attempt to get some multiracial accommodation going on a local Government level it in no way reflects PFP policy in this regard.

"Our duty as an official Opposition is to judge whether in fact this constitutes a step in the right direction. We will do so after having considered the rec-

ommendations in depth and having discussed it among ourselves."

The Council had accepted the principle of multiracial Government which, if introduced at the second and third levels of Government, would logically have to be extended to the first level as well.

This view was expressed by the HNP's Mr Jaap Marais.

Rejects

"The HNP rejects any form of power-sharing between White and non-White at any level of Government because once a notion starts on the road, it inevitably and ultimately leads to one man, one vote," he said.

"In the case of South Africa there has already been a clear indication that the Indians and Coloureds would not give their co-operation unless Blacks were included.

"Introducing these constitutional amendments would probably only provide a base

from which they could agitate for further amendments and more extensive powers to be shared by non-Whites," Mr Marais said.

The Labour Party of South Africa rejected the Council's proposals because Blacks were excluded from a new constitutional dispensation, Mr Norman Middleton, deputy leader of the party said yesterday.

"The Labour Party has steadfastly maintained that if the urban Blacks were excluded from a new constitutional dispensation we would reject the proposals," Mr Middleton said.

"We will never agree to any proposals that exclude the majority of the citizens of this country.

"The President's Council is creating more divisions than it is finding solutions and I cannot understand how it can be blind to the fact that it is essential that Blacks must be included in a new constitutional dispensation.

PC Report Debated on All Fronts

FAR-REACHING constitutional recommendations, which give Coloureds and Indians equal but separate political powers with Whites on a ward basis in a new system of local government, and power-sharing on a multiracial basis at regional and metropolitan level, constitute the main recommendations of the President's Council.

The recommendations on local and regional management, which was tabled in the President's Council yesterday, drew diverse comment from govern-

ment and opposition spokesmen, ranging from a "realistic start to constitutional reform", to "integration from the top to the bottom", and "a step in the right direction".

The report indicated — although the terms of reference of the Council did not include urban Blacks — that urban and town Blacks would be drawn into the umbrella metropolitan system with Whites, Coloureds and Asians, and especially with regard to neutral or so-called "hard functions" like electricity and water supplies, and roads.

Systems

Outstanding recommendations include:

- A separated local authority system, referred to as a homogenic system, in which even the smallest population group would have the right to form an own local government;
- A loaded and qualified franchise system, basically based on the age of eighteen, but also including property ownership and place of residence, giving in certain circumstances a maximum of three votes to certain people;
- The maximum devolution of power down to the local levels of government, which would, among others, give

local communities the right to decide for themselves on the use of all public amenities;

- The recognition of ethnicity, especially excluding either enforced segregation or integration.

Separate

- The recognition of residential separation of Whites, Coloureds, Asians and Indians;
- A ward system, based on homogeneity in cases where it is not possible to separate the various groups entirely;
- Extensive proposals for a neutral source of income and tax reforms, including the taxing of professional people and tourists; and
- Two possible alternative systems of regional government — the one retaining the present provinces, the other replacing it with eight regions. In both cases the administrators would be appointed by the executive president, and executive members could include Coloureds and Indians.

Welcomed

Dr Jan Grobler, chief information officer of the National Party, welcomed the proposals as a realistic beginning towards constitutional reform.

"The question is no longer what is to be done, but how we are going to implement it," he said.

The report provided

for full political rights for the "urbanised" Coloureds and Indians on both the first and second levels of government, bringing them on par with urban Blacks, who already had rights up to their level of regional government, he said.

The recommendations were based on fundamental motivations "and was not an attempt to integrate."

Dr Grobler stressed that the recommendations were not an attempt to integrate, but rather an attempt to implement "segmental autonomy" which, he said, was the answer to South Africa's plural democracy.

He said segmental autonomy, which formed the basis of the recommendations, in fact meant that everybody retained their own schools, churches and living areas, and it was the doorway leading to a "just" society.

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the Progressive Federal Party, said the recommendations were not in line with PFP policies, but were a step in the right direction.

Hailed

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the National Republican Party, hailed the proposals as being an acknowledgement of NRP policies and principles which, he said, had now been "taken over."

Dr Andries Treurnicht, leader of the Con-

servative Party, said the proposals represented the thin edge of the wedge to full integration on all levels of government, and contained integration from the top to the bottom.

Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Internal Affairs, said in a statement the government would follow the following guidelines in its consideration of the proposals:

- Constitutional adaptations should not have a destabilising effect on the South African community, and must take place in any evolutionary process;
- Such adaptations should be practically implementable, measured against the country's resources of available funds;
- It should be simple, readily understandable and easily presentable;
- Proposed measures should be as acceptable as possible to all population groups;
- In the interests of all groups, Whites should be given a sense of security and a guarantee of their permanency, while the other population groups should be offered the prospect of their reasonable expectations being realised;
- With regard to the Government's determination to ensure essential and justifiable adaptations, the recommendations would be carefully considered in order to execute constructive steps as speedily as possible.

MPC Shocked at Report

THE Conservative Party MPC for Brakpan Mr Jannie van Eeden said in Pretoria last night he rejected the findings of the President's Council commission with all his strength.

He said the so-called healthy concept of power sharing had been stripped of all its pretensions and stood naked for the world to see what it really was.

His general feeling was one of profound shock when he read the first reports in the afternoon Press yesterday.

"The National Party wants to accelerate the introduction of the Indians and Coloureds into local government and the presence of Blacks in metropolitan government seems to be on the cards."

He said he did not have the opportunity to study the report in

depth but he predicted that many National Party members would cross the floor in the next few days.

"I will confer with the party leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht, early next week on the far-reaching implications of the report," he said. He added that the contents of the report had been anticipated by the members of the Conservative Party who defected a few months ago.

PC Plan

IT is no good the Government trying to pretend that the President's Council's recommendations on local and provincial government are in line with the 1977 policy.

They aren't — nor should they be, since 1982 is not 1977 and the President's Council was not trying to maintain the status quo but was seeking to introduce a new system of local and provincial as well as national government.

The recommendations were bound to be radical, given the composition of the council.

And though they may, in broad essence, be what the Government itself might wish to see put forward, they may equally go beyond what that Government would be prepared to implement.

What the council's first report proposes is to change the whole system of local and provincial government, as it has applied over the years, and to substitute a system of local, metropolitan and regional or provincial government (there would be eight new regions) in which Whites, Coloureds and Indians will share power and in which there will be a maximum devolution of power to the smallest local authorities.

Though the voting rights of the three groups will be equal, the dice initially will be loaded in favour of the Whites through a system of multiple votes whereby a person owning or occupying fixed rateable property will have extra votes and there will also be corporate votes, with no person having more than three votes.

However, since the other groups are advancing fairly rapidly, the position could arise where Coloureds and Indians will be in control of some local and regional

governments, especially in the Cape and Natal.

There are also suggestions in the report of Blacks being brought into the system at metropolitan level in deciding matters like water, electricity, fire services, abattoirs and roads.

Opponents of the proposals will be sure to condemn them out of hand as the thin edge of the wedge — the start of power sharing that will ultimately, and inevitably, include Blacks.

Whether this is so or not, the fact remains that the proposals are so far-reaching as to arouse joy on the part of those who wish to see a form of power sharing, and fear and anger among those who do not wish to see any change that threatens the existing sovereignty and powers wielded by the Whites.

We ourselves have always taken the middle stand between those who want a completely multiracial State in which citizenship will be open to all, and all will have equal rights, and those who want no change at all, believing, incorrectly, that the Whites can hold on to their power and privileges for ever.

At first glance, it might appear that the council's report leans too heavily towards the first, but the system is so complex that it is not possible to give a final assessment at this point.

The Conservative Party has already rejected the first report as ProgFed policy taken over by the Government. The CP will have nothing to do with it.

The New Republic Party welcomes the proposals as NRP policy which has been acknowledged by the President's Council.

The Progressive Federal Party, while welcoming a multi-racial accommodation at local government level, is nevertheless cautious about declaring its stand on the proposals as a whole, as the report, in the words of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, in no way reflects PFP policy.

The National Party, which fathered the President's Council and must live with the controversy that its reports will engender, will have to say which proposals in the reports it accepts.

But until the Government's own proposals have been tested at a Federal Congress of the National Party and at provincial congresses, we shall not know finally where the Government is taking the country.

However, the Government is clearly riding a tiger — and it will be interesting to see whether it is able to do so successfully or whether, if there is any danger to its own survival, it will jump off smartly.

DETAILS OF PRESIDENT COUNCILS PROPOSALS REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 pp 12-14

[Text]

ALL population groups should have meaningful participation in decision-making at local and regional levels, according to the joint report of the Committee for Economic Affairs and the Constitutional Committee of the President's Council.

The report, tabled yesterday, deals with local and regional management systems in South Africa.

The joint committee recommends that the franchise at local level be based on the principle of identical qualifications for all, coupled with a system of plural voting.

"In Western democracies local government is regarded as a constitutional cornerstone because it affects the daily lives of citizens more directly and intimately than do the more removed operations of central government," the report says.

"Local and regional management should provide effective and responsible administration in many fields which cannot easily be dealt with by centralised or centrally directed structures."

The committee says its basic view is that vigorous, self-govern-

ing local communities can be a great source of strength to any political order.

"This view is held not only for the reasons which are usually cited, but because in a heterogeneous society those matters which are sensitive in inter-group relations are frequently matters which appropriately belong at the local government level and the committee is persuaded that it is at the local government level that such matters can be most satisfactorily handled."

The report says one of the most important problems facing local management derives from a polarisation which has developed between the opponents of the policy of separate autonomous local authorities and the proponents of the current system.

"The committee is in agreement that the best way to bridge these two poles of thought, that sometimes seem so far apart, would be to grant the maximum degree of devolution of power to local authorities for all homogeneous communities within the area of jurisdiction concerned.

"Whilst it is recognised that the existence of present residential patterns will mostly be reflected in the ethnic

character of any particular local authority, this process of local government reform should not be accompanied by enforced racial separation or enforced integration."

The committee says it recognises that the existing management and local affairs committee systems for Coloureds and Indians cannot be retained indefinitely, but recommends they should not be abolished until other, more satisfactory arrangements have been made.

The committee recommends that "as an urgent interim measure" existing management or local affairs committees be given representation as soon as possible, through the chairman or his nominee, with full voting rights, on the White local authority concerned.

Two alternatives are given by the committee with regard to the question of local authority franchise, both incorporating a system of weighted or loaded multiple franchise.

In one alternative every resident over the age of 18 would have one vote, owners of fixed rateable property and occupiers of such properties would have two votes each (one as owner or occupier and

one as resident) together with a system of corporate or "fictitious" votes — one vote or a maximum of two or three votes, depending on the number of rateable units on which tax is levied.

In terms of the second alternative one registered owner per fixed property would have two votes, an occupier of fixed property of a minimum value as determined from time to time would have one vote, every "fictitious" person who is the owner of fixed property would have two votes,

and every "fictitious" person who is the occupier of fixed property of a minimum value would have one vote.

The report recommends that the franchise arrangements decided upon should be embodied in constitutional legislation and that the existing franchise system be retained until the new one is implemented.

The committee says the right of any person making a material contribution to the well-being of his community to have a say in the affairs of the community must be recognised and the municipal franchise

should be extended to all corporate businesses on a uniform, nationwide basis.

"The owner of fixed property upon which rates are paid has a definite interest in the assets of his area. A tenant, besides being a resident, makes a contribution by spending his income or a portion of it in the area.

"Thus, although everyone makes some kind of contribution or other, there are those who demand that their vote in local affairs be given more weight since they are not only residents but pay rates and taxes."

Provincial Councils in Doubt

UNANIMITY could not be reached on whether Provincial Councils should be phased out or retained as a second tier of government, the joint committee of the President's Council which investigated local and regional government said.

The committee said it heard weighty representations and evidence for the retention of the provincial system. Most of the evidence was not in favour of abolishing it forthwith.

There was, however, also significant evidence for the phasing out of the provinces.

The proposals for reform should be viewed as an acceptance of the challenge to look realistically at the demands being made for an effective and satisfactory system of government in the Republic.

"The committee does not have a unanimous view with regard to the future of the second tier of government and has decided to submit two alternative models as part of its findings."

One model involves a phasing out of provincial government as a representative legislative middle-tier government institution and the eventual introduction of a new constitutional development.

The Administrators and the members of the Executive Committee would be appointed representatives of the central Government.

"Provision should also be made for members of the coloured and Indian population groups in the executive committees."

The current administrative dispensation, except for the Directorate of Local Government, would be retained in the form of deconcentrated

regional administrations of three relevant Government Departments, for which provision already exists to some extent in the Departments of Health, Education and Transport and, to a lesser extent, in other departments.

In this alternative, provincial control over local authorities would be phased out and, for the purposes of regional administration, the Republic would be divided into eight regions.

It is not expected that this could be implemented before 1986.

In the second model the provincial system, with a centrally appointed Administrator, an elected council and an elected executive committee, would be retained.

Provinces would have no legislative powers but executive functions would be devolved to them to the maximum possible degree.

Because decision-making which concerns them takes place at provincial level, Coloured and Indian population groups would be represented in the Provincial Councils with representatives of the White, Coloured and Indian groups elected on the basis of independent rolls, ensuring equitable representation for each group.

Recommendations regarding the franchise will be made at a later stage, the report says.

Each Administrator would be helped by an executive committee of elected representatives of the various communities which would be equitably composed in terms of the representation of these communities.

Existing System Falls Short

THE President's Council is convinced that the existing local government system, especially with regard to the Coloureds and Indians, does not function at all satisfactorily.

This view is expressed in the report of the joint committee which investigated local and regional government.

The report says the committee also believes that any new decentralised government system, as proposed, would have to evolve within the framework of a new philosophy.

The model proposed by the committee approaches the problems of the past within the framework of such a new philosophy.

The report says that according to evidence before the committee, as well research of its own, the lack of adequate financial resources to enable local authorities to carry out their functions effectively, as well as the unsatisfactory status of local management bodies for Coloureds and Indians, was the most dominant and recurring problem.

It led to almost total resistance to separate, independent authorities by these communities.

Another problem identified was the absence of co-operative attitudes between some leaders and between different communities.

Another was the lack of suitable staff and training facilities and the fact that Coloured and Indian bodies have

no more than advisory functions.

Insufficient land and room for expansion and prescriptive control by both central Government and the provinces was another.

The committee says it is of the opinion that until its new proposed system comes into operation the current management or local affairs committees should be given, as an interim measure, nominal representation through their chairmen or their nominees with full voting rights, on the White local authorities or White management committees to start implementing the new system.

This interim measure would apply until fully fledged, economically viable authorities emerged.

Talks on Services 'Logical;' Guidelines on Metropolitan Development

THE Co-operation between fully fledged Black local authorities with White, Coloured and Asian local governments with regard to "hard services" (water and electricity supply and roads), was unavoidable and logical, the committee said.

It said representation could be granted to all population groups at the level of "hard" services (metropolitan/regional) by nominated representatives from the primary level, without the right to self-determination or the identity of any group being endangered or jeopardised.

The committee accepted that according to policy Blacks outside the national states would liaise with their national states or confederal units with regard to political rights

above the local authority level.

THE President's Council's joint committee which investigated local and regional government has recommended a form of metropolitan government as one of the components of a reformed system.

In its report, tabled in the council yesterday, it says however that possible developments have still to be investigated critically and in depth.

It sees an investigation into the institution of a formalised metropolitan government system as matter of prime importance.

It bases this view on the following considerations:

● The necessity for co-ordinating a wide range of local government functions within the

large metropolitan complexes;

● The fact that welfare and the interests of the people of metropolitan areas depend not only on decisions taken within their own areas of jurisdiction;

● The wide context within which metropolitan planning has to take place;

● That the different population groups liaise at the central level through central institutions;

● That unco-ordinated metropolitan planning could have negative environmental and economic effects;

● The accelerated rate of industrialisation and urbanisation.

The report says metropolitan or area government would have as its base a number of primary authorities, such as towns, bo-

roughs or other similar authorities.

Although a universally applicable system would be desirable, the principle of freedom of choice must be observed so that adapted systems appropriate to local circumstances could be adopted. —

Power to as Many Bodies as Possible

A MAXIMUM devolution of power to the lowest possible homogeneous and viable entity is the President's Council's fundamental approach to a reform of government at local and regional level.

This emerges from the joint report of the committee for economic affairs and the constitutional committee of the President's Council on local and regional management systems.

It is the first of three reports dealing with a new political dispensation for the country.

The second, that of the constitutional committee dealing with central government, will be tabled early next week and the third, the report of the joint committee of the Planning Committee and the Committee for Community Relations of the Council on the principles and implementation of the Group Areas Act and aspects of the Act which affect community relations, some time after that.

The first two reports were requested by the State President while the third was requested by the chairman of the President's Council.

Those requested by the State President will be submitted to him in unaltered form after having been discussed by the Council in plenary session.

Amendments in the form of substantive motions may accompany the reports.

The report on local and regional government says consensus was arrived at that the committee's fundamental approach could be described as being based on a keen awareness of the necessity to grant the maximum devolution of power to lower authorities.

"The committee's recommendation also constitutes an attempt to suggest ways and means of satisfying the legitimate aspirations and expectations of the various population groups with regard to their participation in the decision-making processes on all levels of government.

"Co-operation and co-decision-making between the various communities with regard to affairs of mutual interest is accepted as a point of departure," says the report.

The report says the committee found a number of essentials. These were:

- The necessity for effective government and the maintenance of order, peace and stability;

- The maximum devolution of power;

- Decentralisation of administration;

- Meaningful representation for those concerned;

- Elimination of discrimination;

- Equality of opportunities and justice;

- The promotion of material prosperity in a market-oriented economy;

- Participation in decision-making through a democratic system;

- Promotion of individual and community self-respect and identity;

- The recognition of the right to individual and group freedom;

- Equal private, civil and political rights for all communities;

- The elimination of group domination and the protection of the rights of minorities;

- The recognition of and respect for cultural and ethnic diversity;

- The promotion of goodwill, mutual acceptance and tolerance;

- Adaptability and flexibility of the governmental and administrative systems;

- Provision for the realisation of the legitimate expectations of the various population groups;

- Rationalisation of income resources and other assets to ensure the effective implementation of the obligations and responsibilities of government at all levels.

The report says the committee believes the establishment of autonomous local authorities should not be arbitrarily determined and should be based on certain realistic criteria.

These are that the area must be capable of demarcation as a geographically distinct unit and that the size of the area and its level of development must be sufficient to enable in-

dependent progress and necessary expansion.

New local authorities must be capable of maintaining minimum standards in respect of infrastructure and services and have available the necessary trained and competent manpower.

Any decision to establish a new local authority should respect the wishes of the community and there should be leaders at civic level.

The report says these criteria could be affected depending on the possibility of a new local authority being incorporated in a metropolitan or regional body or the possibility of arrangements being made with another local authority or private enterprise to supply certain services on a contractual basis.

It goes on to say that existing residential patterns and community/culturally sensitive matters should be taken into account, provided that ethnicity must not be the only de-

cisive factor to be considered and that local authorities should have legislative power commensurate with their responsibilities.

The committee says that while it is strongly in favour of a decentralised system of autonomous local authorities, the operation of such a system would to a large extent be determined by practical circumstances.

This would in each case dictate the most appropriate system of authority for each city, town or region subject to certain common cri-

teria.

"Success in the development of a new constitution will depend upon the faith and dedication to the ideal of bridging the gap between the absolute approach to separation on the one hand and the equally absolute failure to take into account, on the other hand, the fact of diversity and the importance of group interests.

"The wishes of all groups, including minority groups, should always be respected."

Blacks Could Not Be Ignored--Report

REPRESENTATION of urban Blacks together with Coloureds and Indians at the level of metropolitan or regional management is proposed by the President's Council committee which investigated local government.

The committee's report recommends maximum devolution of power to elected local authorities representing Whites, Coloureds and Asians and says that while the position of Blacks was not included in its assignment, they could not be ignored.

The recommended elected local authorities would nominate members of regional or metropolitan management bodies, on which it is recommended that Blacks nominated by their own separate local authorities or community councils should also be represented.

These boards would be responsible for the provision, control, planning and co-ordination of "hard" services such

as water, electricity, fire services, abattoirs, roads and streets.

The committee says all population groups could be represented together at this level without the right to self-determination or the identity of any group being endangered or jeopardised.

"The committee accepts that, according to policy, the Blacks outside the national states will liaise with their national states or confederal units with regard to their political rights above the local authority level."

Black municipalities should be established only on the basis of the same criteria and standards as those for municipalities in general, the committee says.

"The committee supports the establishment of Black municipalities when conditions for success are present and when the people so desire."

On the financing of local authorities, the committee recommends that all nett income from rates on commercial, industrial, mining,

agricultural, Government and Government-derived business institutions (excluding rates on domestic dwellings), together with other additional local taxation and income, should be earmarked as "neutral" funds.

Such neutral funds should be used to finance the activities of the metropolitan/regional authorities in the areas of member local authorities on a pro-rata basis.

The committee says that although Blacks are not included in its assignment, economic realities and rapid urbanisation have compelled it to take note of the question of Blacks outside the national states because of the complexity of their involvement in, and inseparability from, local and regional economies.

The committee says that in formulating its proposals for reform it took account of the standpoint of the board of chairmen of administration boards, which said, inter alia:

"A model (for local

authorities) that takes the White, Coloured and Asian population groups only into account, without looking at the blacks in the RSA, will find that the preponderance of number of the Blacks will very soon turn this problem into a topical one."

The committee took cognisance of the fact that at present urban Blacks are "fairly successfully" organised into at least 228 democratically elected community councils at local government level.

"In addition, in anticipation of relevant legislation during 1982, progress is expected to be made towards full municipal status for several of these councils."

The reports say the speed at which community councils can be developed will be determined by the availability of experienced personnel, especially of Blacks.

Accommodating the interests of urban residents of all population groups at civic level and the need to co-ordinate services make consider-

ation of a metropolitan authority system a matter of prime importance, the committee says.

The metropolitan areas have become major contributors to the national economy and the present system should be examined again.

"There is meaningful representation in local

government and participation in decision-making by the White population group only," the committee says.

Having regard for expected urbanisation trends and future economic development needs "it is apparent and most desirable that the other population groups should also be

given appropriate representation and meaningful participation in decisions affecting the interests."

The committee recommends that representation be given to all population groups at the level of metropolitan or regional management relating to the provision or services

Full Rights Anywhere

MEMBERS of the Chinese community should be accorded full rights at the level of local government, and should be allowed to live anywhere they wanted, according to the joint report of the Committee for Economic Affairs and the Constitution Committee of the President's Council on local and regional management.

Chinese people should exercise their rights and fulfil their obligations in the communities in which they live, says the report. —

Freedom, Equality For All, Urges Report

WHATEVER governmental forms are recommended by the President's Council, they "should satisfy the requirement of full civil and political rights," according to the report.

In a section dealing with premises and assumptions, the report says: "The committee should not recommend governmental forms that are discriminatory in respect of the groups which participate in them.

"The committee furthermore holds that in any future constitutional system, government at all levels should promote and respect the following:

● Individual and group freedom;

● Equality of opportunity and justice;

● Protection of identity and self-respect;

● Social and material welfare;

● Internal and external peace and security."

The report says the premises adopted by the committee presuppose the establishment of a system of government which is broadly representative of an accountable to the communities it is intended to serve — "in a nutshell, a democratic system."

It adds that positing a democratic goal is one thing, while realising it in South Africa's particular circumstances is something else.

The report says this

question is treated in detail by the Constitution Committee, whose first report will be tabled next week.

"Suffice to say here that the immediate constitutional objective in culturally or ethnically diverse politics, with their inherently high potential for excessive or disruptive conflict, is to reduce and hold competition for political power and position to manageable proportions."

The committee says any new system of government, viewed as a coherent whole, should have close regard to the facts:

● That South Africa has a heterogeneous population with a high degree of ethnic differ-

ences;

● That, in the absence of secure mechanisms for the protection of group as well as individual rights, conflict is probable;

● That the ethnic groups must be accommodated in a way which neither denies nor exacerbates their differences;

● That South Africa has reached a stage in its constitutional development in which group domination should be eliminated, and in which the rights of minorities should be se-

cured;

● That co-existence between groups and the elimination of domination require government by co-operation;

● That co-operation depends in the final analysis on consensus;

● That South Africa needs strong government, and any prospect of paralysis must not be allowed to arise. Accordingly, when consensus cannot be achieved, mechanisms for transcending dissent to ensure effective government must be deployed;

● That to secure group as well as individual rights, to accommodate dissent and to avert conflict between the organs of state, mechanisms for achieving a balance between the various organs of state are necessary.

The report says the committee is keenly conscious of the importance of maintaining stability in a transitional situation and of the difficulties of the practical reformer in this kind of situation.

"It has been said that

it is easier to make a revolution than to bring about a major programme of reform.

"The committee understands this, and in the clash of perceptions and interests which inevitably exists in a country like South Africa, the committee has tried to strike a balance between White interests and expectations on the one hand, and the equally justifiable interests and expectations of communities of colour on the other."

One Education Authority

A SINGLE Ministry of Education, to be established at the first level of government, for Whites, Coloureds and Indians, which would have three executive branches

serving the three communities, was recommended by the President's Council committee.

It also proposed that eight education author-

ities for each of the envisaged new eight provinces or regions (which might replace the present four provinces), should be established at the second level.

The greatest possible

degree of autonomy should be granted to schools serving various communities, with parents and teachers having a major share in decision-making at the third level of government, it said.

Local Conditions to Decide Options

THE whole approach to a new, decentralised system of local and regional government, as proposed by the President's Council, should be flexible, says the report of its joint committee which investigated the matter.

In terms of the committee's proposals, the report says, local circumstances in each particular instance would largely determine to what extent autonomy should be given to particular authorities, and also the shape that the institutional framework would take.

From this, it would follow that larger local authorities should be permitted greater independence, and that more functions should be transferred to them.

In cases where small

communities of a particular population group are unable to satisfy the criteria for attaining local authority status, provision is made for adequate representation in another local authority.

Such representation ranges from direct representation on a ward basis in some local authorities, to the inclusion of minority groups on an independent roll inside the ward or local authority where they are living.

In terms of the proposals any minority group would have the right to constitute its own local authority if it was viably possible.

The committee says it is fully aware of the historical residential patterns and accepts that the establishment of

autonomous local authorities, or the delimitation of wards, will take place largely on the basis of homogeneity.

"In determining and defining these homogeneous local authorities, communality of interests and the sentiments of the people should be respected.

"Practical circumstances might sometimes, however, make a purely ethnic composition of a local authority impossible."

In cases where representation on local authorities is on the basis of the municipal ward system, wards should be delimited on basis of rateable property value. Valuation should be carried out and co-ordinated by impartial statutory boards in each region

or province, the committee recommends.

It feels that although participation in local affairs should be as broadly based as possible, a weighted or loaded multiple franchise system is desirable.

"Every person making a contribution towards the well-being of his community must have a say in the affairs of the community.

The committee recommends that there should be a division of functions normally exercised by local authorities into two broad "hard" and "soft" categories.

It lists as hard such functions as welfare and business-oriented services that can be provided on a large scale at lower unit cost, such as water, electricity-

ty, fire protection, abattoirs, roads and streets.

"The soft functions are mostly the more community-sensitive or culturally sensitive services, which are strongly related to cultural and traditional preferences and can therefore differ widely from one community to another in our plural society."

It cites as examples communal halls, residential areas, schools, pavements and streets.

The committee believes that such a division of functions can be handled by means of a two-tier system of government at the local level, without the establishment of an extra tier.

The committee suggests that besides the elected local authorities (primary tier) in a region, a further joint umbrella service body be established.

The elected local

authorities would supply the more sensitive soft services and, on the basis of either the rateable value of property or the use of services, nominate representatives to a regional or metropolitan authority.

Such an authority would derive its executive and administrative power from elected primary authorities and would render services, against payment, to the primary units that constitute it.

In terms of the recommendations, every autonomous local authority, regardless of its group character, must be entitled to nominate at least one representative to the regional or metropolitan body.

This dual-functioning authority system would apply to densely populated urban areas, but could, in adapted form, be introduced for rural and sparsely pop-

ulated areas.

The committee says the powers of autonomous local authorities should be embodied in a new constitution, that administrative control should be restricted to the minimum and, in particular, should be of a non-prescriptive nature.

The phasing in of the proposed new model should not be a disruptive process.

"It should be a gradual, evolutionary process, accompanied by the least disruption and the highest measure of effectiveness."

As an interim measure, current management and local affairs committees should be given nominal representation with full voting rights on White local authorities until autonomous, fully-fledged, economically viable ones emerge.

Landau: A Big Advance

SOUTH Africa could no longer afford the cost of discrimination based on colour, the executive director of the General Mining Union Corporation, Mr Basil Landau said yesterday.

Addressing the President's Council, Mr Landau appealed to the members of the council to support the recommendations made as they represented a "major advance in the right direction".

The Whites in South Africa could not expect people of colour to be the in staunch allies in the country's economic battles if they were not given a full opportunity to contribute to and to earn a fair share of the benefits, he said.

"If people are to be given full economic opportunities, then they must be allowed to participate in a meaningful manner in the making of decisions that affect their day-to-day lives and their dignity."

It was at the local and regional level that Whites and people of colour could most effectively and easily join with each other in discussion, consultation and decision-making, for it was there where they worked and lived.

"South Africans can no longer afford to pay the price of preserving privileges based on prejudice," he said.

Ideas Will Trigger Other Changes--Schlebusch

THE President's Council's proposals for reform of local and central government would trigger off a process of meaningful constitutional change even if they were not accepted in toto by the Government, the council chairman and Vice-State President, Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, said today.

He was officially opening the plenary session of the council at which the joint report of the Committee for Economic Affairs and the Constitution Committee, on local and regional management systems, was tabled and debated.

Mr Schlebusch said the report of the Constitution Committee on reform at central government level would be tabled within days and debated, as would a joint report by the Planning Committee and the Committee for Community relations on the principles and implementation of the Group Areas Act and aspects of the Act affecting community relations.

"The most outstanding feature of all three reports is that all of them were adopted unanimously by the members of the rel-

evant committees.

"Taking into account that the members of the four standing committees that were involved represent South Africans from different population groups, political beliefs and backgrounds, it is fair to say that this augurs well for dynamic and meaningful dialogue in the future on matters of vital importance to our country," Mr Schlebusch said.

"Whether these proposals and the comments thereon by the President's Council are accepted by the Government in toto or not, they will surely trigger off a process of meaningful constitutional change."

Mr Schlebusch said the reports on central and local government had been requested by the State President and would be submitted to him unchanged after being debated by the council.

"The council can submit its own comment on the reports by adoption of substantive motions and it is consequently advisable to wait for the council's comment before a final judgment is passed on the relevant proposals."

Mr Schlebusch reviewed the work of the council and the various committees to date and spoke of projects being

dealt with at present and projects proposed for the future.

He announced that the Committee for Economic Affairs had begun preparatory work on a study of all discriminatory legislation and practices prejudicing or limiting the full participation of specific population groups in the economy, and the position of the different groups in the economy.

Mr Schlebusch said the first report of the Constitution Committee would not contain a full blueprint for the first tier of government and the committee would continue its investigation into adaptations to the constitutional structure.

The Science Committee was investigating demographic growth, paying particular attention to how the economic and social development of the population was being harmed by its growth and structure.

"One on the most striking aspects which has so far presented itself from literature on the subject is the fact that a population policy forms part and parcel of the broad socio-econ-

omic planning of most countries — in Western, socialist and increasingly also in African States."

South Africa, with its rapidly growing population, would have to come to a better understanding of the implications of present population growth trends.

"It appears that as far as only one of our natural resources, namely water, is concerned, the maximum demographic capacity of the country is in the order of 60-million to 70-million people.

"The enormity of the problem is illustrated by the fact that on an assumed basis of an average so low as only three children per couple, a total population of 64-million is likely to be reached by the year 2025."

Mr Schlebusch said evidence obtained by the committee seemed to indicate that population growth was closely related to social circumstances such as health, housing, education and economics and indications were that the results of the investigation would be of national importance.

Mr. Schlebusch said the Community Relations Committee was engaged in preparatory work on the desirability and scope of an investigation into labour relations.

Changes Inevitable in Financing, Says Report

THE success of any new local and regional government system will largely be determined by an acceptable and effective financing system, according to the President's Council report on local and regional government reform.

"The devolution of government functions

without the devolution of financing resources would be incongruous," says the joint report of the Committee for Economic Affairs and the Constitutional Committee of the President's Council, tabled in the council yesterday.

The committee emphasises that the fi-

nancing of local authorities is not dealt with in detail in its report since an expert working group, the Croeser Committee, investigating the matter.

The committee recommends that the group should continue its work as a permanent liaison committee.

"Given the fact that the present basis for the financing of local authorities has no adequate potential for growth, that it is dependent chiefly on rates on property, that it is inadequate and not sufficiently flexible, and that available funds are allocated to the Black, White, Brown and Indian communities in an arbitrary fashion, it is accepted that changes in the basis of taxation and the way in which tax revenue is allocated become an urgent necessity", the report says.

It says that before new sources of revenue for local authorities are created, it is essential in the existing situation of a heterogeneous population, with wide differences in economic standards, that a division be made between "hard" and "soft" services, and that a programme for the purposeful elimination of accumulated backlogs and relative disparities be first accepted.

"Without such a programme, greater revenue sources within the current pattern of local government will tend to increase and widen the existing welfare gap, disparities and backlogs which will obviously make it still more difficult to rectify the position in the future."

The committee recommends that the "hard" services such as water, electricity, fire services, abattoirs, roads and streets be carried out by regional

authorities nominated by the elected primary local authorities, which would carry out the

"soft" or community-sensitive services such as community halls, residential areas, schools and swimming pools.

The report says all nett income from rates on commercial, industrial, mining, agricultural, Government and Government-derived

business institutions, excluding rates on domestic dwellings, together with other additional local taxation and income, should be earmarked as "neutral" income.

Such "neutral" funds should be used for financing the activities of the metropolitan/regional authorities in the areas of member local authorities on a pro-rata basis.

The committee recommends that all new income of a "neutral" nature in the areas of existing local authorities where metropolitan/regional authorities are not feasible at present should also be divided between the Black, White, Brown and Indian communities.

A new basis of financing should be implemented simultaneously with the introduction of the proposed new local management system, the report says.

"The committee is not in favour of the creation of new sources of income or the broadening of the income base at local level in isolation, since this will simply perpetuate those aspects of the old system which are unacceptable."

The committee recommends that the establishment of joint

services committees for the provision of bulk services at low unit cost to local government, as proposed by the Croeser Committee, be implemented, and that these joint services committees be regarded as forerunners to the proposed metropolitan/regional authorities.

It also recommends that revenue from motor licences, entertainment tax and transfer dues should accrue to the area of origin.

The report says that in view of the existing backlog and disparities in infrastructure and services between communities, minimum standards must be laid down.

"It is accepted that such minimum standards will vary from region to region but they should be the same in respect of immediately adjacent communities and must be in accordance with the ability of the communities concerned to pay."

"It is accepted that variations above the minimum will occur in certain local authorities."

In a summary of its proposals, the committee says the minimum standard should be set with regard to services such as street lighting, tarred roads, water provision etc.

"The achievement of greater parity as regards available services for the various communities would definitely contribute to the depoliticisation of local authorities."

"Communities which cannot afford the minimum standard of services should be assisted

financially, whereas communities which require more than the minimum standard for themselves should obviously be expected to make a greater contribution in this regard on a tariff sliding scale."

The committee says serious attention will have to be given to the development of new sources for the "neutral fund" to expand the income base of local authorities.

Some of the sources which could be further investigated by the permanent liaison committee are motor licences allocated to local authorities, new categories of occupation services such as doctors, accountants, architects, advocates, etc., a tax on the turnover of undertakings within each particular area, a tax or levy on employment — the number of employees or wage turnover — local fuel taxes, toll payments, and taxes and levies on tourism.

"The division of the neutral fund according to a specific formula among various authorities, if the recommendation is accepted, is another subject which will have to be investigated further."

A per-capita consumer spending per group can serve as a good example and starting point."

The committee says the question of where the taxation authority will be situated and many other important aspects concerning fi-

ancing would have to be investigated thoroughly by the expert group.

FURTHER REACTION TO PRESIDENT COUNCILS PROPOSALS REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 pp 3, 4, 12

[Text] The Herstigte Nasionale Party yesterday pledged itself to using every weapon in its armoury to fight the new constitutional proposals, declaring them to be "the departure point to disaster."

The leader of the party, Mr Jaap Marais, said in Pretoria that the proposals, if implemented, meant only one thing: escalating integration, ever-increasing demands from the Blacks and the eventual total destruction of White South Africa.

Commenting on the proposals at length, he said they were based on the principle of multi-racial government, and government which would open the door to ever-greater competition from non-White groups.

Disunity Factory

"It will solve no problems; cause ever-greater constitutional confusion and uncertainty; and will eventually fail, as other similar attempts have failed elsewhere in Africa," he said.

Whatever the proposals were called, they had a built-in factor of disunity and strife which could not be bridged by a sufficiently strong communal factor.

"For these reasons, similar systems elsewhere in Africa have resulted in a continual weakening of the political position of the White, eventually resulting in Black majority government," said Mr Marais.

The Republic's existing constitution was that of a White South Africa, just as the national anthem and flag were White South Africa.

Security

"This constitution must be retained because peace and order in South Africa depend on the feeling of security the Whites have on the basis of the present constitution," he said.

The non-White peoples could develop constitutionally without the principles of White South Africa being affected.

The President's Council proposals were based on the 1977 constitutional recommendations of the National Party, which had been referred to the council on a conceptual basis.

"And they contain the principle of power sharing among Whites, Coloureds, and Indians," said Mr Marais.

AWB Won't Change--Terre' Blanche

The Leader of the ultra-Rightwing Afrikaanse Weerstandbeweging, Mr Eugene Terre Blanche, said yesterday that the point of view of the AWB would never change.

"We will not accept anything less than a White government for a White South Africa," he said.

Commenting on the President's Council report, he said what had been the greatest shock for him was that "for 300 years the White man has struggled to get to where he is, and now he is prepared to share with people of other colours and religions."

He had, however, been expecting the recommendations because of the multi-racial composition of the President's Council.

NRP Is Not Entirely Happy

The New Republic Party's reaction to the President Council's reports was mixed, according to the leader of the NRP in the Transvaal, Mr Alex Anderson.

"As regards the third tier of government we are very satisfied because the proposals run along the lines of NRP policy but we are unhappy with the proposals regarding the provinces and the executive powers of the president," he said.

He viewed "with interest" the fact that the Conservative Party and the Herstigte Nasionale Party had rejected the proposals out of hand.

"I am sure the Progressive Federal Party will do the same--and that would be a shame because if the PFP rejects the proposals, I cannot see the Coloureds and Indians accepting them as it won't do for their leaders to be seen to be to the right of the PFP," he said.

Mr Anderson urged the PFP to look at all the proposals very carefully before deciding to accept or reject them.

Change Should Be Embraced 'Joyfully'

CHANGE was desirable as well as inevitable and should be embraced joyfully rather than reluctantly, Mrs Adrienne Koch, a former National Party Senator told the President's Council today.

Speaking in the debate on the Council's report on Local and Regional Management, she stressed the need for stability and strong leadership while change was taking place.

Economic progress was vitally important

Mrs Koch said, noting the retarding effect on the economy of the Soweto riots of 1976 and the tragic happenings earlier at Paarl and Sharpeville.

Mrs Koch said she deplored the fact that people from the right and the left were already denigrating the Council's report without having studied them.

She criticised an attitude, she said, some White people held that they had "done so much for the Coloured people and why aren't they grateful."

The Coloured people at present had less rights than ever, she said.

"We are hoping to do things which have to be done, and the Coloured people will have to do something for themselves too, in the same way as the Afrikaner and English communities did when they were down."

The Afrikaner and English communities had had the vote and money respectively and it was difficult to improve one's lot when one had neither of those things.

Mrs Koch welcomed a recommendation

whereby greater funds will accrue to Coloured and Indian municipalities, saying that they deserved to benefit from the money they spent in the White towns and cities.

Referring to the population explosion, Mrs Koch said more attention should be paid to birth control by every woman in the country and birth control should be a major rallying cry.

Blank Cheque for Integration

THE President's Council proposals gave the Government a blank cheque to institute integration at the local and central government levels, Mr Fanie Herman, a former National Party MP said.

He agreed completely with most of the recommendations, but there were several with which he could not agree at all.

The principles of a democratic system for all population groups, of non-discrimination, the avoidance of conflict, devolution and decentralising of power and administration and protection for all groups against domination, were praiseworthy, but self-determination had to be the golden thread, he said.

Two of the recommendations in particular, both concerning interim representation for Coloureds and Indians on existing White local authorities, implied forced integration.

This would remove the self-determination of the Whites who would not have the sole right to decide on matters that were sensitive and intimate to them.

No Municipal Apartheid

THE joint report on Local and Regional Government did not advocate municipal apartheid, Professor Arc de Crespigny said. There were those who would like to portray it as advocating municipal apartheid in order to discredit it in Coloured and Indian communities and among a significant segment of the White electorate.

On page 59 of the report, however, it stated that ethnicity would remain a factor around which local government was organised.

Recommendation eight however, stated that any decision to establish a new local authority would have to take account of existing residential patterns and community/culturally sensitive matters,

"provided, however, that ethnicity must not be the only or decisive factor to be considered".

"These statements, particularly the latter, make it abundantly plain that the committee is not advocating municipal apartheid — that is separate municipalities for White, Coloured and Indian communities."

The committee had clearly expressed its opposition both to compulsory separation and compulsory integration.

Any community which wished to retain or develop its own municipality should be entitled to do so, and where a Coloured or Indian community wished to become a ward of a mixed city or town

council, and ward representation was justified in terms of rateable value, they should be entitled to do so.

"If Cape Town, for example, wished to return to the system that existed prior to 1972, then it is my understanding of the tenor of our joint report that it should be free to do so."

If an existing city or town council opposed such a development by

refusing to become mixed, the Committee's answer was indicated in Recommendation 2.0 which explicitly stated that while they continue to exist, Coloured and Indian management and local affairs committees should be given direct representation through the chairman or his nominee, with full voting rights, on the relevant White local authorities.

Most Power, With Least Interference

THE New Republic Party's Natal leader, Mr Ron Miller, said yesterday the NRP-controlled Natal Provincial Council wished to see the minimum interference by central Government in the functions of regional authorities.

Commenting on the President's Council's proposals for a new system of regional government in which provinces would disappear and be replaced with eight regions, he said the Natal NRP favoured maximum devolution of power to the provinces and regions by the central Government.

Summarising the NRP's attitude to provincial government in Natal he outlined the following principles:

- Other population groups should be included in the decision-

making process;

- Regional/provincial bodies should comprise representatives by popular vote;

- The extension of political rights to other groups must be an extension of a democratic process with built-in protection for minority-group interests;

- Minimum interference by central Government in the functions of the regional/provincial authorities;

- Maximum possible devolution of power to the provinces/regions by central Government;

- The New Republic Party maintains that Natal can be designated as only one region.

- A complete review of revenue sources and requirements is a prerequisite for the acceptance of any alternative system of regional/provincial government.

'An Enormous Task' if the Plans are Accepted

DURBAN. — The first Natal reaction to the President's Council local government recommendations came from the Mayor of Pietermaritzburg, Miss Pamela Reid, who said yesterday the Government faced enormous tasks if it accepted the findings of the council.

She said the mind

boggled at the enormity of the task contained in the recommendations.

Every conceivable aspect of present local government would virtually have to be turned upside down and reconstructed, she said.

She was concerned whether "this enormous bureaucratic machine" could do it.

The present system of government had

been in operation in South Africa for 300-odd years and apart from certain aspects of multiracialism she felt it had worked well.

One important point was that the President's Council's recommendations did not assist the Black people in any way. She felt Blacks would reject them.

IDC SEMINAR TO BOOST EXPORTS, CREATE FIRST 'THINK TANK'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 11

[Article by Aida Parker]

[Text]

THE Industrial Development Council (IDC) is to sponsor one of the most important export seminars ever held in South Africa on June 11. Primarily, the aim is to boost the RSA's export capacity in capital goods and services and to acquaint businessmen on how such exports can be financed.

But there is also considerable speculation that the seminar will lead to the establishment of South Africa's first export "think tank", to devise ways and means by which this country can promote exports of capital goods and services and improve its competitive edge against developed industrial producer nations.

The announcement was made to The Citizen last night by Mr Bismarck S Olivier, senior manager of the IDC.

Mr Olivier said that development of the export market was one of South Africa's top targets today: "If we don't export, we might as well throw in the towel now."

A key objective of the symposium was, accordingly, to get the export community together, "to familiarise them with the mechanics of the export finance scheme established to promote the export of South African capital goods and services."

The export promotion scheme, he said, has now been in operation for about 20 years and is administered by the IDC on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Industries.

Over the years, the IDC has financed contracts in excess of R600-million to all parts of the world, covering a great diversity of capital goods. These included abattoirs, oil rigs, fishing fleets, cement plants, bridges and irrigation works. Total finance currently outstanding is in excess of R300-million.

This involved in the planning for the seminar include the Department of Commerce and Industries, the Credit Guarantee Insurance Corporation, SAFTO and South Africa's leading acceptance banks.

"We have had an excellent response to our invitations, because people in the business know the IDC's reputation in this field.

"The symposium, which will hear various viewpoints from a wide range of highly authoritative speakers, will be an exercise in practical exposure to the potentials and pitfalls of taking part in the country's export finance schemes.

The list of speakers at the seminar includes Mr C F Scheepers, Deputy Director-General, Department of Industry, Commerce and Tourism; Mr J C Odendaal, general manager, Exchange Control, SA Reserve Bank; Mr C Leisewitz, assistant general manager, CGIS; Dr P J Kieser, general manager, Safto; Mr G Pretorius, Director, Department Industry and Commerce; Mr J M J van Vuuren, manager, Foreign Capital Markets, Standard Merchant Bank.

GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE SECTOR URGED TO SOLVE HOUSING PROBLEM

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 4

[From the "Parliament" page]

[Text] Appeal to Private Sector

THE Minister of Community Development, Mr Pen Kotze, appealed to the private sector to assist his Department with providing low-cost housing.

Speaking in committee on his vote, he said his Department was doing everything to remove stumbling blocks to make this participation possible.

Stressing the need for the necessary positive reaction to his appeal, he said the provision of low-cost housing had till now been the sole responsibility of the government, but this situation could not carry on.

The private sector had to be encouraged to get involved to alleviate the emergency situation that had arisen in lower income housing.

Referring to the severe shortage of housing for Blacks, Mr Kotze said the situation called for the introduction of drastic methods, adding it was the government's view that Blacks should be allowed to provide roofs over their own heads.

THE Government should immediately embark on a crash home building programme and build

tens of thousands of two bedroomed townhouses for Whites in "to be established new village complexes" adjacent to South Africa's major cities, Mr George Bartlett, (NRP Amanzimtoti) suggested.

Mr Bartlett, who took part in the debate in the Community Development Vote, said it was common cause that one of the greatest socio-economic problems facing South Africa today was the chronic shortage of suitable housing units for all population groups.

Hardly a day went by without one reading in the Press of the tragic hardships being experienced by both the aged and newly married young South Africans in their tragic search for suitable accommodation.

The Minister must concede the point that White South Africans were today experiencing an unparalleled housing crisis and urgent action must be taken.

"I wish to stress that central to this problem has been the Rent Control Act."

This act was originally designed to pro-

tect tenants against exploitation during the war years.

However, as time progressed, the provisions of the Act had been abused and as a result the entire economy behind the rented housing market had been distorted.

The end result has been a marked fall-off in the construction of new housing for renting.

"It is for this reason that I submit that the Government has a responsibility to initiate a crash home building programme — a programme which I believe the large financial institutions have a social responsibility to support, yet one which will still fall within the ambit of the free enterprise system.

"What is proposed is the construction of villages — close to urban areas, and transport — each village consisting of from 500 to 1 500 townhouses.

"These townhouses will be constructed by private construction firms on an assembly line basis — as has been done with similar projects overseas — so that the economy of scale can keep costs to a minimum."

RELEASED VAN DER MESCHT GIVEN ROYAL RECEPTION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 5

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

A BLUE carpet reception worthy of a visiting potentate yesterday made bearded, long-haired Sapper Johan van der Mescht probably the most feted South African private soldier in the country's military history.

There were many wet eyes, even among hardened servicemen, as Sapper Van der Mescht was reunited with his family on the apron of Pretoria's Waterkloof Air Base — and to the daughter he hardly remembers — after his 1 500-plus days as prisoner in Angola.

More than 100 personnel at the base turned out to watch the heartrending reunion between Sapper Van der Mescht and his wife, Cheryl, and daughter, Chantal.

Women officials mopped at their eyes as Mrs Van der Mescht — who was taken into the SA Airways Boeing 747 "Soutpansberg", which the sapper had virtually to himself from Frankfurt — and who later emerged hugging her husband tightly with little Chantal walking between them. All three were crying.

Immediately after the plane landed the team of nine national Intelligence Service men who negotiated the sapper's release were whisked away from the aircraft. Newsmen were not allowed to photograph or talk to them.

On the apron the Van der Meschts were tearfully reunited with Sapper Van der Mescht's mother and father — whose knees gave in frequently and who had to be supported by two military personnel — and a retired Defence Force officer who had prayed for him.

They were then herded through a horde of television and newspaper cameramen, with dog handlers keeping reporters from getting too close, to the VIP lounge at the air base.

Some 20 minutes later Sapper Van der Mescht, with his wife and daughter were exposed to a short, impromptu press conference in a briefing room.

Immediately afterwards the family were taken away for lunch at an undisclosed destination, with an afternoon ahead of them before Sapper Van der Mescht was to return as "a guest of the army" for an intensive briefing

session.

The Van der Mescht relatives arrived some 45 minutes before the "Soutpansberg" touched down. They were brought to the air base in a Puma helicopter. It was clear that on their arrival they were struggling to contain their emotions.

Mr Van der Mescht senior was clearly a very shocked and ill man and was constantly helped and supported — his knees frequently giving in — by a padre of the Chaplain General's staff and a woman serviceman.

Mrs Van der Mescht senior, wearing a lilac coloured costume, appeared to be the most composed of the small family group.

Sapper Van der Mescht's wife, wearing a skirt and a white jersey, devoted her time to escorting her daughter, dressed in a white jersey, floral dress and knee high boots, through the waiting crowd.

As the aircraft arrived the Van der Meschts were escorted to the apron where the greetings took place — and from where Sapper

Van der Mescht, hand in hand with his wife and daughter, were escorted away for tea before the Press conference.

Cloak and Dagger

SOUTH Africa may never know the cloak and dagger background story to the release of Sapper Van der Mescht.

The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, personally placed a blanket ban yesterday on any details of the negotiations, except that Sapper Van der Mescht was flown out of Frankfurt, Germany.

A similar ban was placed on any information relating to the team of National Intelligence Service opera-

tives who engineered the release.

Sapper Van der Mescht himself said he was flown to East Germany from Angola a week ago and until Tuesday morning, after he had been taken to Frankfurt for the handing over, did not know what his fate was to be.

Whatever it was he was resigned to it, secure in the belief that he would eventually be freed, he said.

Welcome Home Message from Chief of SADF

A SOLEMN Sapper Van der Mescht choked back tears as he listened to a special message telexed to him by the Chief of the Defence Force, General Constand Viljoen.

Lieutenant General Raymond Holtzhausen, Chief of Staff (Personnel) of the defence Force, formally welcomed him back to South African soil, together with Brigadier J P Potgieter, of the Chaplain General's staff.

In the message read out by Gen Holtzhausen — a message which ended with Sapper Van der Mescht being given his unconditional discharge from the Defence Force — Gen Viljoen said "that every member of the SA Defence Force welcomed him back in his fatherland".

The country was

sharing the joy of his family and friends on his return and Sapper Van der Mescht should rest assured that he had never been out of the country's thoughts a single day, the message said.

There was gratitude for the success of the efforts to secure his release and for the fact that Sapper Van der Mescht had never lost courage or faith and loyalty in South Africa.

Despite great provocation, said Gen Viljoen intelligence reports on Sapper Van der Mescht revealed that he had never broken down or given up his unswerving belief in South Africa.

He was, said Gen Viljoen, an example in patriotism to every other South African.

Sapper Van der Mescht said soon after

his arrival that his biggest ambition was to volunteer again for more military service — on the border or anywhere else.

While appreciating the unconditional discharge from further service given him he felt it was his duty to come forward after a period of leave and to volunteer for service.

"I have waited 52 months for this day — I could have waited another 52 if I had had to, secure in the knowledge that one day I would be free," he said.

For this reason he owed a debt to his country that could be repaid in more military service.

He had no ill-feelings or grudges about his capture — "it was and is an occupational hazard for the man in the field," he said.

Brainwash?--'No Chance!'

CHOKING back sobs, Sapper Van der Mescht said: "I feel like crying," when asked what it felt like to be back on South African soil after 52 months of precarious existence as a prisoner of war.

Facing a barrage of cameras and questions from newsmen, Sapper Van der Mescht clung

tightly to his wife's hands as he falteringly answered questions.

He asked specifically to be allowed to speak in English, although Afrikaans was his mother tongue . . . "quite simply, I haven't spoken Afrikaans for years."

Then he smiled and threw his arms aloft as

he was asked about his trip back to South Africa. "I had a whole 747 to myself," he said.

He had never been tortured during his period of capture, although he had been maltreated — and would in time give details of what form the maltreatment took.

"They would have

liked me to break down but they never really succeeded in breaking me."

"They had no chance," he said when asked if efforts were made to brainwash him to turn against South Africa.

He said he had no knowledge of a controversial film in which he

was shown as possibly turning against South Africa and said that during his period of capture no television camera had been on him.

His biggest aim now was to get to know his family again--particularly his wife and small daughter--and to take a holiday before looking for work and volunteering for further military duty.

He said he was flown to East Germany a week ago and was told only on Tuesday morning that he was to be freed.

"But when they took me to East Germany I didn't think it was to be released . . . I didn't know what it was for.

Nobody told me what was going on but I had faith in our Government to get me out eventually."

Asked if he had come to know mercenaries and other soldiers in prison camp with him, he said simply: "I will speak of them later. They were my friends . . . some were executed."

CSO: 4700/1222

DE BEERS MAY LAY OFF 500 WORKERS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 5

[Text]

NEARLY 500 workers at De Beer's Premier Mine near Pretoria will be laid off unless transfers to other mines in South Africa can be arranged.

The workers — 47 Whites and 451 Blacks — were told of the retrenchment plans yesterday. De Beers has, however, undertaken to transfer as many of them as possible.

Those who have lost their jobs include 29 shift bosses, foremen, section managers and divisional engineers.

A spokesman for the De Beers group said the reduction in staff affected all levels of employment at the mine but represented a fairly small proportion of its 4 275-strong workforce.

"As a consequence of the high level of diamond stocks and cur-

rent level of sales, the De Beers group is reducing operating costs and long term expenditure wherever possible," he said.

"Current production at the mine will remain unchanged but developments below the sill will be affected.

"The resumption of development at Premier will be reviewed from time to time in the light of prevailing conditions."

The spokesman said workers affected by the staff cut would be told by June 14 of any plans to transfer them.

"Those who can be absorbed at other mines and are prepared to accept transfers, will be moved without any loss of rights and with expenses paid," he said.

"If we are unable to offer employment to

anyone or our offers are not accepted, the normal month's notice plus two months' pay will be given."

He said no other mines had been affected by staff cuts.

Meanwhile about 90 Black workers at Everite's Kliprivier factory and stock depot were laid off yesterday.

The men, many of them contract workers from independent national states, were put on buses at about 9.30 am and sent to railway stations for the homeward journey.

According to one company employee, Everite's pay office worked through Wednesday night preparing wage packets for the laid-off workers. The men were handed their pay, he said, on the buses.

Everite's group personnel manager, Mr Evert Claasens, confirmed that the sackings had taken place, but denied the pay-outs were made on the buses.

"They represent only a negligible proportion of the nearly 1 400 workers at Kliprivier," he said.

"The men were laid off because the recession is starting to hit us and we are not getting as many orders for our products as before. For two months we carried a surplus of workers, but we finally had to stop and do something about it."

About 80 workers at Everite's cement factory on the reef and 20 at its Cape Town factory have also been laid off in the past month.

EFFORTS TO RESTORE CABORA PASSA POWER REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 5

[Text] ESCOM predicts that the quality of electricity supply will be better this winter than it was last year, a spokesman said in a statement in Johannesburg yesterday.

Everything possible was being done to restore a regular power supply from Cabora Bassa in Mozambique, he said.

Should efforts by Hidroelectrica de Cabora Bassa and Escom be successful in restoring normal flow from Cabora Bassa soon, "the quality of supply will be even better than Escom foresees for the remainder of the year", he added.

"All our problems have not been solved, however, and we expect to still apply load-shedding as a result of the same factors which caused it last year."

The spokesman said Escom would put three more generating sets on line during the year adding another 1 700 megawatt to the grid by the end of the year.

Although the position would be an improvement on last year, the quality of supply was not yet what Escom would like to give its consumers, he said.

At the current growth-rate in demand for power, Escom could expect to be satisfied with its quality of supply only in a few years' time.

Escom had introduced a system of voluntary power-shedding to soften the effects of insufficient supply during the morning and evening peak-hours and this should prevent large, unscheduled power-cuts.

In addition, it had speeded up its recruiting, training and building programmes.

CSO: 4700/1222

FOUR COMPANIES PLACED UNDER JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 9

[Article by Toni Reyneke]

[Text]

Four companies, one of which is an importer of arms, were placed under judicial management in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday because they were suffering liquidity problems, the managing director of all the companies said.

Mr M Stolarczyk, of Bryanston, brought an urgent application against Stole Aviation Holdings and its subsidiaries, Stole Aviation Engineering, Capital Air, and Service Aerienne, all of Grand Central Airport, Halfway House.

Mr Justice Vermooten made the order returnable on June 22.

According to Mr Stolarczyk's affidavit, all the companies are solvent, but are suffering severe liquidity problems because of the present financial climate.

The companies have a joint turn-over of R2-million per annum. Mr Stolarczyk said the total liabilities of the companies are no more than R100 000. He said the liabilities are of a short-

term nature.

Mr Stolarczyk said his banker advised him on May 7 that he was no longer prepared to grant him further overdraft and financial facilities unless further and additional securities were lodged.

The bank said it was not prepared to meet cheques issued by the companies and that it required immediate reduction of the R90 000 overdraft it gave the companies.

Mr Stolarczyk said the bank intended instituting proceedings to liquidate all four companies.

He told the court that Service Aerienne maintains aircraft and does business as a servicing company in the aviation industry. Service Aerienne holds rights to service aircraft at Grand Central Airport.

Capital Air has right to conduct non-scheduled public and cargo flights. The company also holds a licence to capture game, for nature conservation and has contracts with the South African Government and independent companies to do surveys and render other aviation services.

Stole Aviation Engineering is an engineering and aviation maintenance and repair company, the court heard. Mr Stolarczyk said the company holds valuable import and export permits and the right and franchise to the repair of aircraft at the airport.

Stole Aviation Engineering is an accredited agent to Atlas Aircraft Corporation for the manufacture of strategic parts. The company also has the right to import strategic materials for Atlas and other aircraft companies.

The company imports arms and is a licensed arms dealer. The franchise is worth R100 000. Stole Aviation Engineering is also a dealer for the Piper Aircraft Company.

Mr Stolarczyk said all the rights of his companies will be lost if the companies are liquidated. This will mean a financial loss to the creditors and shareholders of the company of amounts exceeding R1 million.

If the companies are permitted to continue operations, they will be able to discharge the obligations in the near future, the court heard.

DEPORTED ACADEMIC, THOMAS, TO RETURN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 15

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — Professor Wolfgang Heinz Thomas, a German academic deported from South Africa five years ago, will return to the University of the Western Cape next year to take up an appointment as professor of economics.

Professor Thomas (38), was the director of UWC's Institute for Social Development at the time he was deported to Germany.

He was detained and deported by the security police acting on the orders of the then Minister of the Interior, Dr Connie Mulder, on March 8, 1977.

The move was widely condemned by his colleagues, friends and the West German Government and even caused dismay in Nationalist circles.

Professor Thomas, who now heads the Department of Economics at the University of Transkei in Umtata, confirmed that he had been appointed professor of economics at UWC with effect from January 1 next year.

"I have not yet seen the Minister's decision on paper and have not received written confirmation from anyone, but I believe the appointment stands," he said.

The Director-General of Internal Affairs, Mr S S van der Merwe, confirmed that the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, had approved Professor Thomas' return to South Africa.

Professor Thomas said he and his family had lived in West Germany from 1977 to March 1980, when he accepted the post at the University of Transkei.

Shortly before his deportation in 1977, Professor Thomas, an authority on the economy of South West Africa/Namibia, served as a financial adviser to several Black delegations at the Turnhalle constitutional conference in Windhoek.

He also previously lectured in economics at the universities of Stellenbosch and Cape Town.

CSO: 4700/1222

INVESTIGATION INTO DEFENSE BOND, NOTES FRAUD REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 3

[Article by Rika van Graan]

[Text]

POLICE investigations into the alleged R3-million Defence Bonus Bond and R20-notes fraud intensified yesterday when police experts watched a dummy run on the hidden printing machines in a Bryanston shopping centre storeroom.

Eyewitnesses said detectives from the John Vorster Square Commercial Branch accompanied Mr Donald Julian Walker (55) to the storeroom, where he allegedly operated the machines in the presence of his legal adviser.

The police visit to Bryanston lasted from just after 9am until noon.

It is expected that "bonus bonds" and "notes" printed yesterday will be used in the police docket at a later stage.

Mr Walker, who is awaiting trial on charges of forgery, was arrested on April 27 at Estcourt, Natal. He allegedly tried to cash a forged R500 Bonus Bond at the local Post

Office.

When he was arrested, detectives took possession of R500 000 forged bonus bonds and R14 166 in cash that was hidden in the boot of his car.

Mr Walker was driven to Johannesburg by detectives and he pointed out the Bryanston storeroom to them where forged R20 notes to the value of R364 000 and R2,89 million worth of bonus bonds were allegedly discovered.

The printing machines were left in the room until yesterday when police allegedly watched the dummy run.

Four days after Mr Walker's arrest, he was saved by prompt action by policemen and ambulancemen after being found hanging in a John Vorster Square police cell. He was admitted to the Johannesburg Hospital and his case was postponed in his absence the following day.

Mr Walker was remanded in custody, pending completion of police investigations into the alleged fraud.

SOUTH AFRICA

DETAILS ON SHIP BUILDING CAPACITY GIVEN

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Jan 82 pp 17, 20-21

[Text]

South Africa which has a coastline of more than 1 500 miles has no navigable rivers, but has several large natural harbours, well protected, with sufficient depth of water for the largest vessels. Seven of these harbours, one of which is the Naval Base at Simonstown, have been developed into modern ports which are among the largest and best equipped in the world. These ports are adequately served by an efficient and well developed infrastructure. During the last five years container loading and unloading facilities have been provided, at the ports and major centres, superior to those presently provided in many western countries.

The economic development and prosperity of the Republic in common with the industrialised nations of the Western world is to a very large extent dependent on its foreign trade. It has always been accepted by established Maritime countries that it is politically and economically in their interest to ensure insofar as possible, that at least their exports are carried in Nationally owned ships.

South Africa recognised some years ago the benefits which would accrue from such a policy and with the support of the Government, Safmarine was established, initially on somewhat modest lines, but to rapidly expand into a large economically viable shipping company operating bulk carriers container vessels and general traders to and from the Republic to all parts of the world.

Coastal Services have also kept pace with the industrial development and locally owned companies provide fast and regular services between the coastal centres with vessels flying the South African flag.

To maximise the benefits accruing to any country from the ownership of its own shipping services it must also provide facilities for the maintenance of such vessels and ideally to established ship yards capable of building new vessels as may be required.

In South Africa there has been for several decades at most of the ports privately owned companies engaged in ship repair and maintenance and the Authorities provided at the larger ports dry docks which are available to any vessel requiring such facility.

South African ship repair facilities are comparable with those provided in the majority of foreign countries and are adequate to

maintain all the vessels registered under the South African flag. This undoubtedly is a very satisfactory situation, but what of ship building – Privately owned ship yards were first established in the Republic in the late 60's, strictly speaking only one of these was a ship building company, two others were subsidiaries of established engineering organisations. Unfortunately, the ship building industry when considered in isolation has not prospered, despite substantial private investment and generous Government support. Although at one time there were three ship yards actively engaged on new buildings, there now remains only one commercial ship building yard in the Republic, Dorbyl Marine – Durban, formally Dorman Long.

Dorman Long, first became involved in the building of marine structures in 1942 when it built a 17 000 ton floating dock for the Royal Navy. Many years were to elapse before the next step was taken.

Early in 1962, two shipyards commenced operation in Durban, Dorbyl followed very shortly after when it constructed a slipway at its Durban premises. Within 5 years the owners of one yard were forced to sell due to lack of continuity of work, and some years passed before the yard reopened under new owners who were tempted to build another vessel. This project however, was not pursued and the company turned its efforts to other activities. The second yard who had confined its activities to trawlers, tugs and small ships accepted contracts at keen prices. Unfortunately delays in deliveries were frequent and as a result large losses were reported and in 1977 the company's ship building division ceased operations. Meanwhile Dorbyl persevered with its ship building division and from modest beginnings, – the first vessel to be built being a torpedo recovery vessel for the SA Navy in 1969, – commenced to build larger and more sophisticated ships. In 1975 the company added a second slipway to its facilities and invested a substantial capital sum in the provision of ancillary equipment. The present capacity of the yard is such that vessels up to 150 metres in length and up to 18 000 tons dead weight can be built.

From 1969 to the present date Dorbyl has built no less than 64 vessels of various types, including one oil rig, six coastal steamers and a highly sophisticated fisheries research vessel. The total value of all the vessels built to date by Dorbyl exceed R148 000 000. Despite this relatively high turnover during the past 10 years the Company's ship building division has operated at a loss and the prognosis for the future is not bright.

Mention has already been made of Government assistance to the industry. In 1967 the South African Government introduced a ship building subsidy scheme, (amended in 1971, 1973 and 1978). This scheme provided for a 20% subsidy on the yard price of any vessel over 500 tons gross and less than 6 000 tons gross, which was built for commercial owners. Additionally for export contracts the Industrial Development Corporation provided low interest loans of up to 80% of the contract value. There is no doubt whatsoever that without the assistance of the measures above mentioned most if not all of the commercial contracts secured by Dorbyl during the past 10 years would have been lost to overseas builders. It is in fact more than probable that without the subsidy and loan assistance, Dorbyl, the one remaining shipyard, would have concentrated its activities on other Engineering activities.

The extent of Government assistance afforded to Dorbyl over the past 10 years in the form of ship building subsidies amounts to no less than R17,7 m while the company itself has invested nearly R10 m in providing facilities.

The ship building industry's financial results over the past 10 years make dismal reading, the explanation is neither simple or straight forward. It must be appreciated that the local market for new ships and tugs etc., of up to 18 000 tons cannot fully employ the capacity of even one yard. It follows therefore that if a South African ship yard is to remain economically viable, export contracts must be obtained.

For many years the ship building industry throughout the world has been depressed, the governments of Western nations conscious of the need to retain a strategic industry provided generous assistance in the form of fleet replacement subsidies, modernisation and rebuilding subsidies, new tonnage subsidies etc. In the UK for the financial year 1980 the government provided subsidies on new buildings of 25/30% of the contract price and no less than £55 m was granted during that financial year. In addition the UK government undertook to take over ship yard losses up to a ceiling of £100 m. The competition faced by the South African ship building industry who only enjoy a subsidy of 20% on the yard price is therefore considerable when compared for example with United Kingdom, or Far East ship building yards who are receiving a substantially higher rate of assistance. South African shipbuilders also have to contend with a unique problem. South Africa at it's present state of development has concentrated it's industrial expertise mainly on the mining industry. Because of the very small demand for specialised marine equipment industrialists have not found it profitable to enter this field, such equipment as Marine engines, anchors, cables, propellers and a host of other items which go into the construction of a vessel are not manufactured in the Republic and must therefore be imported. In respect of most new buildings at least 30% of the total cost of building the vessel represents imported items and the cost of importation, amounts to approximately 25% of the FOB value. If for example a vessel has to be built to a value of say R20 m, marine equipment to a value of ±R7 m will have to be imported. If 25% of this value or some R1,5 m represents the cost of importation then the result is that the cost of building the vessel in South African yards is at least R1,5 m higher than a similar vessel built in a foreign yard.

Although the foregoing highlights some of the problems facing South African ship builders there is no doubt that the economic viability of the ship building industry in South Africa would be substantially improved if it could be assured of continuity of work. If this was forthcoming, ship building companies could be persuaded to increase their investment which would allow for larger vessels being built and with the introduction of improved techniques could result in lower unit costs. In the case of Dorbyl to equip the existing ship yard with facilities capable of building up to 35 000 Tons would involve an investment of some R15-25 m. If SA Shipbuilders could be assured that local owners would, for the foreseeable future, order all their replacement vessels from South African yards and if the Government was prepared to make the necessary investment finance available, by means of a low interest bearing loan, then Dorbyl would be willing to provide the necessary requirements. This however, ignores the problems of costs which in turn involves the level of Government

subsidies. If the South African government could be persuaded to increase the ship building subsidy and if it would also retain and make available all the existing export incentives and if tax allowances could be made available to owners comparable with those granted by other Maritime countries it is probable that the South African ship building industry could become an economic and viable commercial undertaking.

In some foreign countries exports must be carried by vessels flying the flag of the exporting country and all new vessels required by shipping companies operating from such maritime countries are required by law to place such orders with the local yards. In such cases the Government concerned contributes the difference between the price which the vessel could be obtained in a foreign yard, not necessarily the lowest price is taken but a reasonable average of the lower prices, and the price for which the vessel can be built in the yard of the country concerned. To prevent the local yards taking advantage of this situation the profits of the local yard are normally restricted to 7½ - 10%.

In conclusion emphasis must be placed on the benefits both direct and indirect which must accrue to South Africa if an efficient and economically viable ship building industry can be maintained in the Republic. Such an industry provides work for a great number of employees both directly in the ship yard and indirectly in the manufacture and supply of all the many items which go into the construction of a ship. The strategic importance of adequate shipbuilding facilities to a Maritime nation is self evident and needs no elaboration. It is accepted by all industrialised countries. Such facilities can be provided in South Africa at comparatively modest cost given the support of Government and the private sector.

CSO: 4700/1265

URUGUAY'S VIEW ON RACIAL ISSUE, ROLE OF CUBANS IN ANGOLA EXAMINED

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Jan 82 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text]

It was refreshing to hear the representative from Uruguay (here to attend the Cape to Uruguay Yacht Race) express his opinion during a South African Broadcasting Corporation interview on what would be the attitude of his country to any outside attempts to use the race as a political platform. Captain Walter Fernandez left his listeners with no illusions as to what line Uruguay would take if any segments of the Left tried to use the Race as a vehicle to further their aims. To sum up in undiplomatic terms Uruguay would simply tell them to go to hell.

Uruguay was for a number of years in the forefront of the communist inspired terrorist operations and only a few years back the Tupumaros organisation presented a real threat to the State with murder, intimidation and kidnapping being daily occurrences.

The adoption of an attitude of firmness is in keeping with the policy that Uruguay has followed for a number of years in dealing with terrorists and the various machinations of the Left. Judging by the present situation in Uruguay, this method of meeting and challenging threats has been one that has worked. While the Tupumaros terrorists have not been finally liquidated they no longer present a threat to the State.

The tactics adopted by Uruguay in countering communist infiltration warrant careful study as they are a departure for the usually accepted Western approach that is based on the Moaist theory of "Winning the Hearts and the Minds of the people". A theory that is so often presented out of context and that never works unless it is implemented in its entirety!

The recent further involvement of members of the Cuban Expeditionary Forces in Angola with members of the South African Defence Force should not excite too much comment. The involvement is simply a progressive development of planned Soviet strategy in Africa and it is not a question of the maintenance of a status quo but the continuation of the creation of an

atmosphere favourable to the communist line that can be manipulated in their favour. Unconfirmed information is that a Battalion of Nicaraguan troops have now joined the Cubans in Angola. Whether the Sandinista/Communist Nicaraguan junta is a surrogate of Havana or Moscow is not yet clear, but it was Fidel Castro who acted as the logistical support for the Sandinista movement when the Carter administration let them take over Nicaragua. Now Moscow is directly supplying the Junta with military equipment which could well be in return for their involvement in Soviet global strategy instead of a participation limited to Central and South America. It would be foolish put forward the suggestion that Cuba has over extended itself from a military aspect with its foreign adventures, hence the possible inclusion of Nicaraguan troops could be an attempt to win additional political advantages for the Soviets.

THE EDITOR.

CSO: 4700/1265

VERSATILITY OF DOMESTIC MPV REPORTED

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Jan 82 p 27

[Text]

An interesting vehicle of considerable military potential has been developed by a Cape Town engineering firm where it is now in production. Reminiscent of the GOERs and Valent's 865BM, one of the "Tremi's" primary features is its central two-axis articulation which bestows considerable off-road mobility. While other similar vehicles employ normal axle drives, however, the Tremi goes a major step further in that it employs a hydraulic power transmission system which serves to eliminate axles, gearbox, clutch and differentials.

Quite apart from the maintenance relief that this approach can offer, it also allows far greater ground clearance and more design flexibility. Thus different chassis layouts and sizes would not require major redesign of the power train as the basic diesel motor cum hydraulic pump is unaffected as are the actual hydrostatic drive units at the individual wheels. Similarly, it would be relatively simple to produce 6 x 6 or 8 x 8 variants should these be required; in fact, a half-tracked derivative has apparently already been roughed out and a powered trailer - coupling onto the vehicle's hydraulic system - is already in the pipeline.

Another important aspect of the new vehicle is that it has been designed with simplicity of operation and maintenance very much in mind, the latter of course aided by the inherently modular nature of the power-train. Slightly more esoteric but nonetheless worthwhile is the fact that only standard steel sections of known values are used in construction. Not only does this help reduce unit cost, it also eases any major repair or modification work that might need to be carried out in the field. As regards operation, it is worth noting that the entire operator's station - such as it is - can be rotated to allow movement in either direction without the normal problems of "reversing".

Currently the Tremi is being offered in a large variety of applications including tipper, forklift, crane, prime-mover and flat-bed with an integral crane. Further possibilities seem almost endless, particularly when it is remembered that the unpowered end can differ quite appreciably in dimensions from the powered part. Then, too, a variety of unpowered elements can be held and coupled to the powered element as and when required which can grant enormous flexibility of operation and considerable economies in procurement. One of the more interesting multi-purpose

variants delivered to date incorporates a forward flat-bed, centrally mounted crane and rear-mounted forklift which coupled with the vehicles central turning axis, makes for a very useful vehicle indeed.

As it is, the Tremi already seems to offer considerable potential for military applications, particularly if the ability to couple one powered element to any one of several specialised units is considered. The most immediate application that springs to mind is that of general-purpose vehicle in any military installation but particularly in a forward camp where space and maintenance facilities are at a premium and there is a great variety of tasks to be performed. A suitable selection of unpowered elements together with one or two powered ones could provide virtually all of the capabilities required in such a situation, ranging from garbage removal and water sprinkler via crane and forklift to front-end loader cum light bulldozer and dumper.

In the longer term, the basic concept could well be further developed in the direction of high-mobility logistic vehicles, gun tractors, combat engineer vehicles and probably even for some combat applications. The possibility of splitting the vehicle in two and reassembling it without the need for major facilities would also seem to render it almost pre-destined for a variety of airborne roles. Still very much in its youth, this new vehicle and the concept behind it hold out considerable promise in the military sphere, requiring only sufficient imagination to push the necessary development.

CSO: 4700/1265

ROLE OF FRIGATE IN SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY DESCRIBED

Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English Jan 82 pp 13-14

[Article by Willem van Niekerk]

[Text]

As we witness the eve of the decommissioning of the last two of the Navy's frigates, our last "big ships", I consider it fitting to write a short indictment on the role of the frigate in our Navy's history, the new concepts of naval tactics it introduced, its role in consolidating our newest fighting service into a credible force, the gap which will be left with its withdrawal, and lastly the repercussions which this decommissioning will bring to bear not only on the Navy, but on the Air Force too.

Officially, the SA Navy came into existence in mid 1946. Its origins can be traced back to the 1880's when the Cape Naval Volunteer Reserve and Natal Naval Volunteer Reserve were established. These organisations promoted interest in naval matters. By WWI they were amalgamated into the South African Naval Volunteer Reserve (RN). Our first naval ships were three ex-whalers. After the Depression, money was in such short supply that even the services of these three boats had to be discontinued. With the eruption of WWII our naval service was known as the Sea Defence Force. With the declaration of war, the Smuts government conscripted local trawlers and whalers for naval use. Only well into the war did we commission our first purpose built warships: three "Loch" class frigates. It can be argued that HMSAS's Transvaal, Natal and Good Hope ushered in our modern navy. For the first time did we have "blue water" craft equipped with the then modern sonar, large guns, and which introduced into our navy the "Squid" ASW mortar. In 1944 HMSAS Transvaal carried out a task of such strategic magnitude for South Africa that it is doubtful whether any other ship in our history, apart from the sailing ships landing the colonialists in 1652, ever equalled this feat: General Smuts decided to annex Marion and Prince Edward islands in the South Indian Ocean. One of his reasons for deciding so was his fear that the Germans could erect V-2 launching sites so the islands, which was not entirely unfeasible. Thus Transvaal set off in secret with a landing party and a few days later her crew hoisted the South African and British flags on the islands. We owe our modern weather station there to that frigate and her crew's dedication.

At that time the "Loch" class were the only credible craft that SA could send out on combined exercises with the RN off the Cape. In the 'fifties, but before the Simonstown Treaty of 1957,

we acquired our fourth frigate, the Type 15 vessel Vrystaat. This ship represented SA at the five hundredth anniversary commemorating the death of Prince Henry the Navigator in Lisbon. For the first time in the Navy's history did we send a ship that far from Simonstown to partake in an international naval review.

The 'fifties also witnessed the commissioning of two ex-RN "Wager" class destroyers, the only ships of this class ever to be employed in the SAN. Not categorised as frigates, they can nonetheless be mentioned here. HMSAS's Jan van Riebeeck and Simon van der Stel were the fastest ships ever in the Navy, achieving more than thirty knots. They equalled the top speed of our missile craft of today. Later they became, together with the "Presidents", the only warships in Africa capable of embarking helicopters while under steam.

In accordance with the Simonstown Treaty of 1957 we received the last three frigates. When built in the early 'sixties, the three Type 12 vessels (we later called them the "President"

class) represented the most modern in naval thinking of that period. Being equipped with passive and active sonar sets, the "Limbo" ASW mortar (we later fitted British supplied torpedo tubes), and modern electronic systems, this class could well have been the most modern light escorts in the world when completed. Yet, times and naval thinking have changed. From the late 'sixties onwards, it was clear that submarines on the whole, and particularly Soviet boats, were achieving tremendous speeds, culminating in the "Victor" class attack submarine which some believe to have an underwater speed in excess of forty knots. Today, submarines prove to be very elusive targets to detect with sonar. In fact, the whole concept of shipborne sonar's effectiveness against the new generation of submarines, even the use of variable depth sonar, is in doubt. It seems that only stationary sonar sets on the seabed and submarine borne sonar can provide a credible answer to submarine tracking. Partly for this reason, that the frigate's primary role has been faded by modern submarine development, and mainly perhaps, because our vessels have approached the end of their normal service lives, it has been decided to discontinue their use.

I want to discourse briefly on the Tenth Frigate Squadron, the only self-supportive, deep sea, surface combat contingent of the fleet. It comprises two frigates and the replenishment vessel SAS Tafelberg. This task group has patrolled to a latitude in line with Dar es Salaam in which the value of big ships to reach distantly has again been illustrated.

The frigates have shown the flag in distant waters. In 1976 President Kruger represented South Africa at the United States bicentennial celebrations in New York, and one wonders whether that was to be the last appearance of a SA warship in Northern latitudes. Annually, the frigates have carried out coastal bombardment exercises off South West's coast. Their withdrawal will leave a vacuum in that aspect of naval gunnery training.

Only the commissioning of the frigates has introduced a lot of tactically significant naval tactics in our fleet. Alas, it seems as if

all these dearly learnt procedures will have no use in our fleet now taking shape. Helicopter embarking is one very important tactic. These machines are used for ASW reconnaissance beyond radar range and vertical replenishment. Only high stable decks can handle these machines, and it will be wishful thinking to ship helicopters successfully on a hull short of the size of a

frigate. As the SAAF No. 22 squadron operates the Wasp, they will be as adversely affected as the Navy itself with the decommissioning. The Wasp was intended as a naval machine for use at sea, where it has to maintain a close affinity with the mother ship. As it cannot carry a heavy payload, and having a short range, there will be very little use for it on land. The Air Force's ability to operate in this milieu at sea will no longer be able to be practiced, as the flying-off platforms will be gone.

Another common feature in modern navies, but which will probably be discontinued here, is afloat support which has been made possible by our frigates and the acquisition of Tafelberg. Discontinuation of this tactic will be to our fleet's strategic detriment, for we shall not be able to deploy vessels as far and to maintain a force at sea for so long as is now possible.

Millions of rands worth of simulators and other equipment at the training establishments are probably going to be dismantled with the frigates' decommissioning, for there seems little purpose in training crews for weapon systems which are no longer going to be used.

The withdrawal of the frigates are costly to us. They have introduced many tactics which cannot be exercised with smaller vessels. Their size enabled them to reach further than any other combat ship in the navy. When they finally sail into history, South Africa will have no single ASW ship. Our White Ensign, moreover, will not be able to fly beyond our coastal confinements.

The frigates, whether here or gone, constitute the foundation stone of the modern South African Navy. By taking account of their feats, we can pay tribute to these magnificent ships.

CSO: 4700/1265

BRIEFS

NATIONAL CAUCUS--CAPE TOWN.--The Government announced last night that a country-wide caucus of the National Party would be held in Cape Town on June 5. The Citizen was told that all MP's and all members of the provincial councils have been invited and that the President's Council proposal on local government, regional government and on the central government, would be fully debated. The caucus will also be used to finalise preparations for the envisaged federal congress at the end of July. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 2] FEARS of an increasing crossover to the Conservative Party from the National Party are to be met at two top-level caucus meetings of Nationalist MPCs. It was learnt yesterday that the Transvaal leader of the National Party, Mr F W de Klerk, will address the caucus to explain to members details of the recommendations at a special caucus meeting on June 9. This, it is learnt, will in effect be a followup to an earlier meeting at which the foundation will be laid for understanding, to be addressed by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, on May 26. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 11]

SHARPVILLE RIOT BOOK BAN--The Publications Appeal Board yesterday overruled a publication committee banning to release for distribution a book by a Black author on the Sharpeville riot. The board, sitting in Pretoria under Professor Cobus van Rooyen, yesterday upheld the appeal by the distributors of the book A Ride on the Whirlwind by Sipho Sepamla. It had been banned because it was a "threat to race relations and a potential threat to the safety of the State, general welfare, law and order." Witwatersrand University's Professor John Dugard, appealing against the ban, said that the book would rather help the White man to understand the aspirations of the Black man than inflame racial hatred. Prof Durgard said that the book was the first on the topic from the pen of a Black author--and similar works by White authors had been allowed free distribution. The events narrated in the book had been freely and extensively reported in the newspapers and had been prominently covered by the Cillie Commission of Inquiry. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 3]

UNION OPPOSES RACISM--The president of a leading South African trade union yesterday urged the Government to speed up the removal of racism from the country's labour laws. Mr G Ahrends told delegates at the triennial conference of the SA Boilermakers' and Steelworkers', Shipbuilders', and Welders' Society that "a large number of people in South Africa are not only ready,

but waiting for rational and peaceful changes to be made to our social, economic and political structures". But he was concerned about the situation where race still seems to be regarded as a decisive element in determining the registered scope of trade unions. "We have regarded the job done by a member or potential member as the vital factor in deciding whether to organise him into our union, and not his or her race," he said. It was therefore wrong to insist that the union should apply to the Industrial Registrar to extent its scope to include Blacks. The union also found it embarrassing to have to explain to some members that, despite labour law changes, special permission still had to be obtained from the Government for them to join it. This step might not be legally necessary, but many people had gained the impression that it was. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 May 82 p 15]

BRIGADIER VIVIERS DIES--One of the most accomplished senior officers of the South African army was found shot dead in his office at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria yesterday morning. He had a bullet wound in the head. He was Brigadier Gert "Boyttjie" Viviers (43), Director of Operations of the SA Defence Force. Brig Viviers, who had about 25 years service, filled various positions in the SA army in his military career. Among these were those of Officer Commanding the crack 1 Parachute Battalion in Bloemfontein, Northern Transvaal Command and 7 SA Infantry Division. At the beginning of this year he assumed duty as Director Ops at DHQ after being officer commanding 7 SA Inf Div for three years. Brig Viviers graduated from the Military Academy in Sandakan in 1961. He leaves his wife, Maretha, and three children, Gert (14), Lazelle (13) and Josias (6). Police are investigating. No foul play is suspected. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 2]

CSO: 4700/1222

MUNDIA OPENS SEMINAR ON EXTENSION SERVICES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mundia's Address

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 19 May 82 p 1

[Text]

PRIME Minister Mundia has deplored the lack of extension services in various sectors of the economy and called for improvement to boost rural development.

There was plenty of basic information and technical know-how available in all sectors of the economy which if properly channelled and applied could help increase the people's awareness.

Officially opening a three-day symposium on "the role of extension services in national development" at Lusaka's Mulungushi Hall yesterday, Mr Mundia noted that extension services in Zambia covered mainly agriculture.

The services should be extended to other sectors like natural resources management and use, health, education, manufacturing and construction industries "all of which play vital roles in national development efforts, especially in the development of rural areas".

Despite commendable achievements by the Party and its Government since 1964 the literacy rate was still low at 39.5 per cent, primary health care problems like cholera, typhoid and malnutrition were still common.

Agricultural output by peasant farmers and manufacturing was still low while housing for unplanned townships on the outskirts of major cities and villages was still poor.

Agricultural cooperatives, with a few exceptions, failed

to tick and yet basic information and technical know-how were available. If properly channelled and applied the information "could drastically change the negative picture I have just described into a positive one".

There was a lot of useful information from various research and development laboratories of the National Council for Scientific Research, Government technical departments and the University of Zambia.

"But I don't think that this vast wealth of information is reaching the end-user in a systematic and effective way. There appears to be no mechanism for the proper transmissions of such vital information from source to the end-user — the peasant farmer, the village ward chairman and his colleagues."

Improved

There was no feedback system for the end-user to the source of the technical know-how which would result in better and improved knowledge and skills to be provided.

Civil engineering extension services in rural areas was unheard of nor "is it in the blueprints of the Government machinery".

In the few cases where extension services existed like in agriculture and community development "their effectiveness leaves a lot to be desired".

Mr Mundia deplored the post-Independence tendency by extension workers of blaming the shortage of transport for their failure to go out to the people in the countryside.

He recalled that during the colonial era extension officers used to cycle or walked long distances to do their work. "But now, hardly two decades away, I'm told that similar type of work has to be done only if there is a Land-Rover, a Land Cruiser or Range Rover. Very soon we shall hear demands for helicopters."

He conceded that mobilisation of people required transport, but pointed out that cheaper means should be preferred. There was nothing wrong with old means of transport.

"With the Chipata bicycle plant coming on stream very soon, we should be able to provide relatively cheap but

extensive mobility to our field extension service workers."

Mr Mundia reiterated his earlier call that Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) should provide valuable information to the Village Industries Service (VIS) for expansion of its services.

Agriculture Department's Observation 'Serious'

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 19 May 82 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] NEXT Saturday marks the second anniversary of the launching of "operation food production" by President Kaunda at a State House Press conference on May 23, 1980.

When we look back today at this ambitious and comprehensive K400 million programme designed to develop the Republic's agricultural potential, the first question is how much have we gone with it in the last two years?

In his inaugural speech the President explained that the method of operation would be centred at six levels — State farms, rejuvenated National Service farms, rural reconstruction centres, producer co-operatives, commercial farmers and village reconstruction co-operatives.

Each level has its own requirements and these are being actively looked into by the Party and its Government.

For instance when National Service resumes its programme it is not likely to follow the old

one; and as regards State farms some of the countries which promised to participate have gone a long way.

There are however levels which are giving concern and which need the services of trained organs to make them move forward.

When he opened a seminar in Lusaka yesterday Prime Minister Mundia pointed out that lack of extension services in almost all sectors had slowed down national development.

We are concerned here about extension service in agriculture on which the President laid emphasis in his "operation food production" announcement.

Is the peasant being helped to increase his yield or improve his methods through an effective extension service; and if not what are the problems facing extension workers?

It is a fact that if we don't break the vicious circle of finance, supplies, marketing, payment for crops and repayment of loans agricultural development at cooperative

and lower levels would be slowed down.

This affects the work of extension staff and what is the use of having them if they cannot travel to meet growers in their districts because there are no vehicles or bicycles or demonstration materials?

The majority of farm training institutes are at present idle and yet these are vital centres where not only extension staff are supposed to prepare for field work but more so where farmers can learn through practical training and demonstration.

A 1977 report by the department of agriculture on "intensive extension method" bewails the lack of appreciation accorded to the service of extension workers.

It says in one section: "This key personnel has remained poorly trained, loses confidence and therefore avoids visiting farmers". Really? That is too serious an observation to be ignored in this decade of "operation food production".

PRC EXPERTS SAY SERENSE-SAMFYA ROAD TO BE OPENED IN 1984

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 18 May 82 p 1

[Text]

THE Serenje-Samfya road has now reached its destination in Luapula Province, but it is expected to be officially opened in 1984, according to Chinese experts working on the project.

This is because of delays in completing the three-kilometre bridge over Lulimala, Luombwa and Luapula rivers.

Presently, only senior Party and Government officials are allowed to use the road from Serenje to Luapula Province until the bridge was completed and the road tarred.

Provincial commissioner of works for Central Province Mr Jose Phiri said there were problems hampering the work on the road which was supposed to be completed this year.

Chinese technicians told the *Times of Zambia* at Mukuku road camp, about 70 kilometres from the Serenje turn-off that the low level of water on the three rivers which had gone down by two-and-a-half metres and the lack of funds caused the delay in construction of the bridge.

Pay

"We cannot install the beams without sufficient water

and we do not have enough Zambian workers because there is no money to pay them," said Mr Ning Hong.

Mr Ning confirmed that the road had now reached Samfya district and that only senior Party and Government officials were allowed to use it.

"But we don't encourage that because we are still busy working on the project."

The construction of the road was launched in 1966 after President Kaunda and a team of ministers and volunteers from Kabwe and Serenje on August 15, 1965 cleared the first few kilometres.

At the time the cost was estimated to be K4,272,000, but in 1976 this rose to not less than K16 million and the latest figures could not be obtained last weekend.

Once commissioned, the road is expected to open up Luapula and Northern provinces to tourists, especially Samfya which is billed as a weekend resort and it will enable travellers to and from the two provinces and the Copperbelt to move safely avoiding the pedicle road through Mokambo where travellers are molested by Zairean border officials.

CSO: 4700/1267

BAD ROADS MAY PREVENT COLLECTION OF HARVEST IN MKUSHI

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 May 82 p 5

[Text]

LARGE quantities of harvest in Mkushi may not be collected this year because of bad roads, a ward chairman warned in Kabwe yesterday.

Munshimbi ward chairman and chairman of the finance and general purposes committee of Mkushi district council Mr Hosea Ngulube said most roads in the district had become impassable because of ridges and pot-holes.

"These roads have not been graded for a long time now because our two graders are in Kitwe undergoing repairs, but even if they are repaired, we have no money to pay for them," he said.

If the roads were not repaired before crops were collected from depots, the exercise would be impossible to undertake. "Even the proposal by UBZ to extend their services to my ward will not be realised."

Some of the roads which badly needed grading were Nkole Central to Kashitu, Nkole Central to Lukomba

and the former Congo border road joining the Ndola-Kabwe road near Kapiri Mposhi turn-off.

Mkushi district executive secretary Mr Harrison Machangani said the council needed K10,000 to get the graders back from Kitwe. "But we don't have even a quarter of this."

And Zana reports: Transporters in Lusaka Province have responded well to the call by Lusaka Cooperative Union to register for the transportation of maize and other crops this season.

General manager Mr Steve Muyakwa described the response as overwhelming adding that 17 transporters had indicated willingness to register with the union for crop transportation.

This will be the first time for the new cooperative union to prepare for transportation of produce in the province. This work was previously undertaken by Namboard.

CSO: 4700/1267

FREEDOM HOUSE RAISING FUNDS TO BUILD UNIP HEADQUARTERS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 May 82 p 1

[Text]

FREEDOM House is mounting a nation-wide fund-raising campaign to get more than K40 million required to build a new Party headquarters in Lusaka.

All provincial Members of the Central Committee have been instructed to form committees to work out the details of the campaign.

According to Party sources, the provincial members of the Central Committee will chair the committees with provincial political secretaries as vice-chairmen while provincial permanent secretaries will be committee secretaries.

In Central Province, this committee has already been formed but has not yet met to discuss how to go about raising the money.

According to the sources, Central Province Member of the Central Committee Mr Samuel Mbilishi has sent circulars to all members of the committee who include parastatal general managers and prominent businessmen

asking them to prepare themselves for the campaign.

In the circular, Mr Mbilishi says the campaign should be conducted like the one organised to raise funds for the building of the University of Zambia.

Mr Mbilishi says: "The Central Committee has decided that the money should be found without further delay to build a new Party headquarters."

The Party had already paid out K1 million to designers of the new building to be erected behind the Freedom Statue in Independence Avenue from the design cost of more than K3 million.

Asked to comment, Mr Mbilishi and Chairman of the Finance and Economic Sub-Committee Mr Elijah Mudenda declined to release the details.

"How do you know about it? Anyway, contact Freedom House for details. I don't want to comment on it," said Mr Mbilishi.

At Freedom House, Mr Mudenda said: "Comrade, you will know the details this month-end."

CSO: 4700/1267

ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

POLICE RECOVER CATTLE--Mazabuka police have recovered 57 heads of cattle in their intensified efforts to end cattle rustling in the district. Southern Province police chief Mr Basil Chibula confirmed in Livingstone yesterday and said a number of people had been arrested in connection with rustling. Only 19 heads of cattle had been identified. "I appeal to cattle owners who might have lost their animals to go to Mazabuka police station to identify the remainder." The exercise would spread throughout the province. Rustlers in the province had devised a system of confusing cattle owners after stealing their animals by changing brands. The 57 animals were found in some people's kraals west of Mazabuka. [Excerpt] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 May 82 p 5]

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